



News about WLIC 2005: the 71st General Conference and Council of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Norway 14 - 18 August 2005



Freedom of expression

Both the Norwegian minister for Culture, the IFLA-president and the key-speaker Francis Sejersted focused on the importance of libraries for freedom of expression, at the Opening Ceremony. Freedom of expression is based on truth, democracy and the free formation of opinions, emphasized Sejersted. Sejersted was chair of the committee that suggested a new paragraph about the freedom of expression in the Norwegian constitution.

Read more about the opening ceremony at page 2 and 3.

Libraries on the move

Mobile libraries, an essential part of public library service in all communities.

In Kenya they have the Camel Library Service, and in Bangkok they bring books to people with bicycles. In Norway and Chile there are library boats. Mobile librarians work towards the same aims in different environments all over the world.

Read more about libraries on the move at page 11.

Weather forecast

Oslo monday
20° C



Freedom of Expression



At the Opening Ceremony the Norwegian minister for Culture, Valgerd Svarstad Haugland, IFLA President Kay Raseroka and the keynote speaker Francis Sejersted all focused on the importance of libraries for freedom of expression. Freedom of expression is based on truth, democracy and the free formation of opinions, emphasized Sejersted. Sejersted was chair of the committee that suggested a new paragraph about freedom of expression in the Norwegian constitution.

“Long ago the Viking long ships set out from Oslo to explore, to raid and plunder. Those days are long ago. Today the Nordic countries are models for social responsibility and solidarity” said Kay Raseroka.

“Libraries have a great potential for the future: One foot in the cultural tradition and one foot in the digital technology. The library is the knowledge bank for modern society – taking care of the society’s collected memory” said key note speaker Francis Sejersted.



“A library is as important for society as a brain for human beings”, said Valgerd Svarstad Haugland.

“The greatest treasure chest of man – the library” - Jon Bing, Chair of the National Organising Committee, at the opening ceremony.

“Culture is what is left when we have forgotten everything else that we have learnt.” Selma Lagerlöf, Swedish author – quoted by Øystein Wiik at the conference opening.

“The library is one of the most important meeting places in our society” -

Per Ditlev Simonsen, Mayor of Oslo at the Opening Ceremony.

“When we gather here at the IFLA conference – we gather not as a routine, not as an elite. We gather as professionals and human beings because advocating libraries is so important. What can we do? As professionals, as directors, as children’s librarians – we can make a contribution to humanity, at the conference we can get new concepts, learn about other cultures – we can learn from our global networks so that we can serve our local communities better.” President of IFLA, Kay Raseroka, at the Opening Ceremony.

What do you think about the Opening Session?



Robert Klaverstjin

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
The Hague, The Netherlands

I think it was an interesting and nice session, a good mix of words, music and lyrics. Especially the final part was great. I also found the speech of Mr Francis Sejersted very interesting. He spoke about an issue which we are all concerned about, and I hope more people in the future can hear such a speech.



Aree Cheunwattana

Department of Library and Information Science
Faculty of Humanities
Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand

Has been to IFLA several times.

I think it was a magnificent opening! I especially liked the focus on freedom of expression and the challenges we face in library and information associations in the future. I also liked the music and the fact that it was so modern. We need to fight back the stereotypes of librarians as boring persons.



Saleh Al-Zuwayed

Library Director
Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency

First time at IFLA.

I really liked the opening ceremony. It's a great honor for me and all the delegates that the Majesty of Norway attend the ceremony and the IFLA congress.

The use of ideas from great writers during the whole session was very inspiring.



Mboni Ruzegeza (left),

Tutor at School of Library and Documentation Studies, Bagamoyo, Tanzania

Matilda Kuzilwa (right)

Library Director of The Directorate of Library and Technical Services at
Mzumbe University, Tanzania

First time at IFLA

It was a nice, interesting and spectacular session. The surroundings in the hall of Oslo Spektrum with the scene and the presentation by Mr Øystein Wiik made it very good. The speech by the IFLA President Kay Raseroka was also marvelous.

Motions and Resolutions: Deadline

The deadline for submitting motions and resolutions to the Secretary General is Wednesday 17th August, 12.00.

They may be handed in to the Secretariat offices. Please make sure that the text is legible and signed by both the proposer and seconder.

Motions:

A Motion is a proposal that the Council take certain action or that it express itself as holding certain views. A motion must be seconded. A motion may be made from the floor in a Council meeting, but must, at the same time, be handed over in writing to the Chair. A motion may be proposed and seconded by: Authorised representatives of Members, IFLA Officers [Members of the Governing Board, Directors and Officers of Core Activities, Chairs and Secretaries of Divisions, and Chairs and Secretaries of Sections].

Resolutions:

A resolution is a formal motion that has been submitted to the Secretary General in writing before the relevant meeting.

Voting delegates can obtain the necessary voting papers at the IFLA Voting Office located at the IFLA Secretariat, room 301 at the Radisson SAS PLaza. Voting papers will be distributed only to those delegates who are in possession of the IFLA Voting Card, duly signed by the appropriate authority. The IFLA Voting Card was enclosed with the Convening Notice for the Council Meeting, which was mailed to all Voting Members who had paid their fees for 2005. Late payments may be accepted during the conference at the Voting Office, and at the same time, the voting cards may then be collected.

The Voting Office will be open on Thursday 18 August 09.00 - 13.45.

IFLA Officers Training Sessions

All Section Officers are reminded of the 2 opportunities they have to attend the Officers Training Session. The Session will be held on Tuesday 16 August, 17.00-18.00, and will be repeated on Wednesday 17 August, 10.45-11.45. Both will be located in the Christiansial of the Christiania Hotel.

A new initiative, the Section Recruitment Toolkit, will be introduced at the session. Come and find out what it's all about!

Members scheduled for Deletion

Members who are 1 or more years in arrears with their fee payments have been scheduled for deletion from IFLA membership. A list of these members is available for consultation in the IFLA Secretariat (Room 301). If you are listed to be deleted, but wish to continue with your membership, please contact Kelly Moore, IFLA Membership Manager, at the Secretariat.

Information Coordinators

All Information Coordinators of the IFLA Sections are kindly advised to attend the meeting for Information Coordinators at 0930-1030 on Wednesday 17 August in Oslosal A, Radisson SAS Plaza. Sophie Felfoldi will speak about IFLANET policies and submitting information to IFLANET, and the incoming and outgoing Chairs of the IFLA Journal Editorial Committee will speak on the selection of conference papers for evaluation and possible publication in the Journal.

Meet Kay, Alex, Claudia and Peter!

Meet Kay, Alex, Claudia and Peter!

The IFLA Conference is a kaleidoscope of overlapping events; the exhibition, the Council, business meetings, conference papers, plenary sessions, workshops, poster sessions, cultural events, caucuses, receptions and, of course, opportunities for networking.

Because Kay, Alex, Claudia and I have so many inescapable meetings; the Governing Board and Professional Committee, meetings with dignitaries and future conference organisers and many others, it is difficult for us to attend the professional sessions and meet as many conference participants as we would like. So we have scheduled the following times at the IFLA booth, C11 to meet you.

Claudia will be there on Monday 15 August, 15.00 - 16.00

Alex will be there on Monday 15 August, 14.00 - 15.00

I will be there on Tuesday 16 August, 10.00 - 11.00 and

Kay will be there on Tuesday 16 August, 15.00 - 16.00

Come along and discuss how IFLA can better represent libraries and their users on the world stage.

Come early and we'll sell you an IFLA Roadshow T-shirt!

[Peter Lor]

Conference Papers

Papers received by the deadline of 09 August are all available from the Paper Printing Centre.

All papers and translations received before this deadline are also available from IFLANET www.ifla.org.

Papers not received by the deadline of 09 August will not be processed until after the conference. The only exception to this rule is translations of papers which have already been received and have already been coded. Speakers/Officers with late arriving papers are requested to leave a copy with Sophie Felföldi, IFLA HQ Secretariat (room 301 at the Radisson SAS Plaza Hotel). After the conference they will be coded and made available from IFLA Headquarters in The Hague. They will also be available from www.ifla.org.

Library history in the Arctic



In 1905 John Longyear arrived at Svalbard. He founded Longyear city and established the Arctic Coal Company. It was a hard and tough life for the Norwegian mine workers, with a lot of conflicts with the mine company. The class differences were big, and the mining company considered the Scandinavian mine workers to be so difficult that they considered replacing them with Chinese workers.

On May 1st. 1918 the workers arranged their first May 1st demonstration. They demanded an 8-hour working day, a school and - a public library.

Mikael Lagerborg will tell more about the northernmost public library Monday 15 August, 16.00-18.00 in Christianiasal (C).

IFLA Headquarters at booth no. 207

IFLA Staff and IFLA Officers will be available to provide a wide range of information on site at IFLA 2005. The schedule of when officers will be present at the booth will be published in IFLA Express throughout the conference week. IFLA's President, Kay Raseroka, IFLA's President-elect, Alex Byrne, IFLA's next President-elect, Claudia Lux, the Secretary General, Peter Lor, and the Coordinator for Professional Activities, Sjoerd Koopman, will also take turns staffing the booth and are ready and willing to answer questions.

UDC Update Session

Tuesday August 16th, 12.00-13.00, Room: Gamlebyen.

All welcome!

Invitation to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award for 2005

All IFLA delegates are invited to the official presentation of the Access to Learning Award for 2005 on Tuesday morning, 16 August, 17.00-18.00 in the Munch Salen (Radisson SAS Plaza). The International award from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is managed by the Council on Library and Information Resources, is given annually to a library or library agency outside the US that has been innovative in providing free public access to information. The USD 1 million grant is to help the recipient develop new initiatives. Previous award recipients include the Helsinki city library in Finland, Argentina's Biblioteca de Congreso and Guatemala's Probuqua. For further questions please contact abishop@clir.org.

Information, Souvenirs and Prize Drawing at the IFLA Booth 207

IFLA Staff and IFLA Officers will be available to provide a wide range of information, including documentation on IFLA membership, the objectives and activities of IFLA's professional programme, recent IFLA publications and Professional Reports and much more. The schedule of when Section Officers will be present at the booth will be published in IFLA Express throughout the conference week. IFLA's President, Kay Raseroka, President-Elect Alex Byrne, the next President-elect, Claudia Lux and the Secretary General Peter Lor will also take turns staffing the booth and are ready and willing to answer your questions. At the booth you can also buy your IFLA Souvenirs. Treat yourself and have a reminder of your IFLA Conference experience! Be sure to visit the booth and drop your business card/address details in the special box to enter the prize draw for a free registration to the World Library and Information Congress in Seoul in August 2006!

Establishment of The IFLA Fund

The IFLA Governing Board at its meeting on 12 August 2005 voted to establish The IFLA FUND.

The IFLA Fund will have three major components:

An “Opportunities” component

This component allows IFLA to engage in new initiatives and develop new programs and services for its members.

A “Disaster Relief” component

This component should be carefully administered to reflect the intent of donors to address disasters in libraries throughout the IFLA member associations and institutions. IFLA must take care to guard its good name and reputation in dispersing the funds.

A “Pillars” component

This allows IFLA to address its immediate funding concerns of reducing its obligations to close the gap in its operating budget. It will allow members and friends to contribute annually or for a short period of time to address specific programs and services of most value to the donor.

In announcing the Fund, the Governing Board has decided to honor outgoing President Kay Raseroka with its first project for the Opportunities Component to recognize her significant contributions to the work of IFLA. Those wishing to donate to the Fund may complete the form below and submit it to the IFLA Secretariat in the Radisson Plaza Hotel Room 301 or leave it at the IFLA Booth 207 in the Exhibition area.

Contribute to the IFLA FUND in honour of Kay Raseroka

I would like to contribute to the IFLA Fund.

The amount of my contribution is

EUR _____

Other currency _____ (please specify currency)

My contribution will be submitted by:

Bank transfer

Name of Bank: ABN AMRO nv

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IBAN code: NL23ABNA0513638911

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Name of Cardholder _____

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Editor **J. Stephen Parker**

IFLA Journal covers news of current IFLA activities and articles, selected to reflect the variety of the international information profession, ranging from freedom of information, preservation, services to the visually impaired and intellectual property.

The **IFLA Journal** aims to promote and support the aims and core values of IFLA as the global voice of the library and information profession by providing authoritative coverage and analysis of a) the activities of IFLA and its various constituent bodies and members, and those of other bodies with similar aims and interests and b) completed, ongoing and proposed policies, plans and programmes related to the development of library and information services around the world.

Contributions to the journal may include:

- Original articles and features.
- News and information about current and forthcoming activities and events in the field of library and information services.
- Reviews or announcements of new publications, products or services.
- Information about education and training opportunities, fellowships, honours and awards.
- Personal news.
- Obituaries.
- Letters to the Editor.

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IFLA Nightspot at Stratos

There is an IFLA NIGHTSPOT every evening. The Nightspot is a possibility to meet colleagues and taste some of the Norwegian cultural scene. Famous Norwegian authors will be present and discuss their work with the well-known Norwegian journalist and correspondent Eva Bratholm.

After the sessions there will be concerts with different ensembles every night. The venue Stratos is in the centre of town with a magnificent view of Oslo. If weather permits, the outdoor terraces will be open!

Nightspot Monday

Monday 15th of August 20.00-24.00

Forfattere: Eirik Newth og Marit Nicolaysen

Music: The Source and Lars Klevstrand

Marit Nicolaysen, who debuted as a short-story writer, wrote her first novel in 1985. She is the author of the successful Norwegian children's books about the boy Svein and his pet rat. Eirik Newth holds a master's in theoretical astrophysics. Since 1990 he has been working fulltime as translator and writer on natural science for a broad audience.

Speakers Confirmed

Metropolitan libraries section open session

The speakers for the Metropolitan Libraries Section Open Session on Managing Metropolitan Public Library Networks have now been confirmed, as follows:.

- Barbara Clubb (Ottawa Public library, Canada): Legislated transformation : the amalgamation of the Ottawa Public Library, 2001-2005 and beyond.
- Inga Lunden (Stockholm Public Library, Sweden): Pride and prejudice : Stockholm Public Library in the communication business.
- Frans Meijer (Rotterdam Public Library, Netherlands): Transforming the Rotterdam Public Library.

The moderator will be Tay Ai Cheng (National Library Board, Singapore). The session will take place on Tuesday 16th August from 16.00 to 18.00, in Hall C, Oslo Kongressenter / Folkets Hus.

Admission to a free wireless network at the public library

Deichmann – the public library in Oslo – offers free admission to their wireless network. It can be accessed in the main library in the opening hours. It can even be accessed when the library is closed – for instance on the wide stairs outside the library.

The Main Library is situated in the town center (see map in the final programme, page 20, up in left corner

Election Campaign

In September Norway is going to elect new members for the Parliament. The election campaign started last week. All the different political parties have their stands trying to capture voters, on the main street Karl Johan between the Parliament building and the Royal Castle. Today the parliament has members from 8 different parties and more than ten parties are campaigning.

Blogging the conference?

Give us a hint at: iflaexpress@operamail.com



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Canadian Delegates!

The Canadian Embassy reception will be held on Thursday 18th August from 16.00 to 17.30 at Wergelandsveien 7.

Conference IDs will be required for admittance

Libraries on the move

Mobile libraries, an essential part of public library service in all communities



In Kenya they have the Camel Library Service, and in Bangkok they bring books to people with bicycles. In Norway and Chile there are library boats. Mobile librarians work towards the same aims in different environments all over the world.

The Nordic mobile pre-conference and festival Libraries on the Move gathered nearly 150 delegates from 10 countries and 31 library buses were represented. The conference was held at the Holmenkollen ski arena in Oslo from 12th – 14th August. At the exhibition of the mobile libraries, the delegates could experience both the hypermodern branch with Internet access and digital services, and libraries especially made for storytelling and theatre. At a mobile library parade on Sunday 14th August, the citizens of Oslo got the chance to see the libraries on the move.

Topics of the conference and festival were the current advances in ICT used in mobile libraries with a broad range of services, i.e. heritage service, cash machine and direct council contact. Another topic was reading promotion, which is an important service in many mobile libraries.

From Indonesia the delegates got a view of a developing country without a tradition of library service or reading. In the slums of Jakarta, mobile librar-

ies are directed at children. The Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation (ICWF) has been pioneering this project since 1994. Currently, there are three buses visiting 30 locations in the Jakarta area and serve around 3600 children. The librarians are teaching the children to handle and read books, and they aim to improve the children's reading interest and knowledge.

In the United Kingdom they are using mobile libraries to push back the boundaries of library service. The mobile libraries in East Riding, Yorkshire play a vital role in making access to modern fully equipped library services in all communities. The county has 10 mobile libraries serving each village once a week with a 10-hour stop. The buses are alternating; therefore the village has a new library every week!

The papers from the conference are available at www.nordicmobile.no

Mobile Libraries session at WICL, Tuesday 16th August, 10.45 – 12.45.



Reception at the new national library

The cultural event on Monday 15th August is the reception held by the National Library of Norway, in connection with the opening of the new National Library.

It takes place in the Hydro Park outside the restored building at Drammensveien 42, about 15 minutes walk from the conference center.

Refreshments will be served. The opening show inside the building will also be shown on a big screen in the park. The opening show is directed by the famous choreographer Kjersti Alveberg.

The new National Library building in Oslo contains 18,000 square meters above the ground and 11,000 square meters of storage underground. The buildings in Mo i Rana are additional. There are 350 people working in the library.

The National library - a recent development.

The National Library was founded as late as 1998. In a rather runabout way, the library had already opened its department for conservation in Mo i Rana, a town close to the arctic circle with an industrial past. Here books, photographs and other materials are preserved in two great multi-storied halls dug into the mountain. The fairy tales of Norway often tells of the treasure buried in the blue mountain on the horizon – in the National Library the tale comes true, the treasure is its collection. The legal basis for depository is extended to all types of “documents”, including computerised media. The full organisation of the National Library was established approximately ten years after the Mo i Rana branch.

Though Norway has lacked a National Library, some of the functions of such an institution were the responsibility of the University Library of Oslo. This was established in 1811, at the same times as the University itself (and three years before Norway became independent from Denmark). In 1914, commemorating the centennial of the constitution, the library moved to a new building. But the university itself was gradually relocated to the Blindern campus, and physical distance increasingly separated the library from its primary users. A new building was therefore constructed on campus, becoming operational in 1999. At the same time, the old building was handed over to the National Library with part of the collections.

It is in the refurbishing and extension of this building that the National Librarian, Ms Skarstein, endeavours to give form to the combination of the traditions of the past with the visions of tomorrow, a motivation which should saturate the whole of the organisation.

Read the whole article about the National library in the article written by NOC-chair Jon Bing in the book about Norwegian libraries that all delegates have got as a present from the National Library and the Norwegian authority for archive, library and museum.



Plenary session, Spektrum, Monday 12.45 - 13.45

Indigenous knowledge systems – the true roots of humanism

Born at a small farm in Lappland at 70 degrees north, professor Ole Henrik Magga, has a broad experience in Saami and indigenous peoples' issues through his active involvement in the Saami movement for more than 30 years. He has been a member of numerous committees and commissions on Saami issues. He was the first president of The Saami Parliament in Norway from 1989-97. He was a delegate to the founding conference of The World Council of Indigenous Peoples in 1975 and from 2002 he was the chairman of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. There are about 300 million indigenous people around the world.

Professor Magga's academic work focuses on Saami linguistics, education, history, culture and politics. He was the first one to take a Ph.D. on the Saami language.

He is still living in Lappland and is currently Professor in Sami linguistics at Sámi Allaskuvla (Sami University College) in Guovdageaidnu.



Information desk

Saturday morning was a hectic time at the help desk. Participants had the most different questions. What are the openings hours for the banks? Where are the meetings? How do I get there?

“We are well prepared, but still unexpected situations occur,” says Torild Redse, who is in charge of the Information Desk.

To help people getting from Oslo Spektrum to Oslo Kongressenter/Folkets Hus ‘living signs’ have been placed at strategic points in the area. These are volunteers you can ask to show you the way.

Much of the activity at the Information Desk has been exchanging the reception tickets to formal invitations. The participants want information about the different options, and also the volunteers' recommendations as to what to choose. And unfortunately some of the bags have lacked tickets for the receptions.

There have also been some complications in connection with the library tours, which are free, and the excursions, which one has to pay for.

“It has been quite a challenge to solve this, but so far we have worked it out,” says Redse.

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Product presentations will be held in the Blue Room at the Oslo Spektrum during IFLA

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Presenter: Mary Sauer-Games, Vice
President, Publishing

TUESDAY 16TH AUGUST

11.15am-12pm

Complete Solutions for

Today's Electronic Collections

Presenter: Cristina Blanca-Sancho,
Strategic Marketing Manager

WEDNESDAY 17TH AUGUST

11.15pm-12pm

Solutions for the Academic Library:

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Presenter: Simon Alcock, Strategic
Marketing Manager



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WINNER OF AN
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Report from Council 1

The leader of the Norway organizing committee Jon Bing stated that it was important that the librarians global voice was heard, both on behalf on their own and in representing the library users. He also made hope that the information society would turn into the library society of the future.

In her report, president Kay Raseroka, stated that IFLA is changing. The strength of IFLA is its members, which was showed in the work on the Tsunami catastrophe. Based on IFLA's infrastructure there are now three pillars; society, members and profession. Advocacy had the major focus during the past period, and it has been important to monitor global issues, as FAIFE , literacy and indigenous knowledge. She ended with a wish to take care of IFLA.

In the Annual report the secretary general Peter Lor

said that the problem areas are finances, turnover and that the number of members are decreasing. On the other hand it will now easier to organize the WLIC conference. Challenges are to get new income sources, strengthen the communication and ICT-capacity and strategic planning.

Treasurer said that despite an deficit of 236.000 Euros and a total income on 1,5 million Euros, the financially situation is healthy. The resources are limited, and there are fewer projects with support from UNESCO. The member fees are important for the economy.

More information you can get at "Meet the treasurer" Tuesday 16.00 at Christiania.

What does the Norwegian press write about WLIC?

Today (Monday 15 August) most of the national newspapers write of the reopening of the National Library. In connection with this event many of them print interviews with the Director of the National Library, Vigdis Moe Skarstein.

Dagens Næringliv focuses on library history in the world and on different creative solutions throughout the world to reach the public. "The smallest library is perhaps the bicycle library in Indonesia or the donkey library in Turkey. In Kenya there are camel libraries that goes to roadless villages in the country, and in Venezuela there are so-called Bibliobongoes - hollowed out tree trunks with motors that sail up and down the Orinoco flood."

Aftenposten writes in a commentary: "More than 4000 librarians meet in Oslo tomorrow. In the host country the library services are fighting a losing battle."

The article starts with a story about the Norwegian librarian Ellen Muller Sundt. Six years ago she quit

her job as a research librarian in Norway and went to Ecuador, where she raised a successful library service. At the congress she will present her experiences. The commentator points at the fact that in her home country, branch libraries are being shut down because of lack of money.

Dagbladet prints an interview with the President of the National Organising Committee, Mr Jon Bing: "Professor Jon Bing (61) thinks that the mobile telephone now will become a part of our body ... Tomorrow Jon Bing will wear one of his finest ties with elephants on and welcome The King, the Minister of Cultural and Church Affairs, and a little less than 5000 foreign guests to the yearly world congress of - watch your tongue - the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions... The gathering will develop the international cooperation of libraries and support the library issue in Norway.

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