

NEWS

International librarians' exchange

The Library Association (U.K.) is proposing an international exchange between British librarians and librarians from other countries. The College of Librarianship Wales will be the base for the pilot programme negotiating exchanges between Great Britain and four other countries: Canada, France, Germany and the U.S. The Association has provided the following sample:

Job exchange: British librarian for public or scientific library wanted, to exchange job, salary and accommodation with German national for 1 year from January 198-, working at the American Memorial Library in West Berlin. Working knowledge of German necessary. The job involves readers' advisory work, cataloguing and reclassifying, and administration. Salary about 1,800 DM (net).

Further details from: Ilse Schmidt, Kaiserstrasse 6, Berlin 19, (West Berlin).

Please address all inquiries and correspondence to:

A. Hillier, Coordinator,
Bureau for International Staff Exchange (LIBEX),
College of Librarianship Wales,
Llanbadarn Fawr,
Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 3AS,
Wales, U.K.

Information science education for Africa

A joint mission of the UNESCO General Information Programme and the International Development Research Centre toured six African countries in February, to evaluate the demand for a post-graduate programme in information science taught in English. Eight universities in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia and Zimbabwe were contacted, to sound out their interests. The mission's report is expected to include recommendations for an African programme analogous to the successful Post-Graduate Course in Information Science for Southeast Asia currently offered at the University of the Philippines with support from UNDP, UNESCO, and other sources.

For more information contact:

UNESCO/PGI,
7 Place de Fontenoy,
75700 Paris, France

Training for librarians

Training which is available for librarians in Britain is in great demand overseas. During the last year nearly 300 librarians and information workers came to Britain with British Council help, sixty of them for full-time courses. One of the largest study tours involved a party of thirty Italian provincial librarians whose main interest was the British public library system. A group of Chinese architects and engineers visited Britain to study modern techniques of library design and construction. In particular they were interested in the concrete waffle polypropylene slab construction process used in several modern British libraries and attended a special meeting at the British Library to discuss the plans for the new building under construction on the St Pancras site in London. (British Council *Annual report* 1982-83).

Library training for Pakistan

In common with many other developing countries Pakistan is working hard to improve its university libraries. Other calls on limited funds and a shortage of foreign exchange pose problems. A further problem is the shortage of experienced librarians and a British scheme for training university librarians, worked out between the Pakistan University Grants Commission and the British Council, entered its second phase in March with the visit to Pakistan by John Feather and Inese Smith of Loughborough University. They went to run a three-week course for seventeen librarians and two teachers of library science. They were assisted by one of the seven university librarians who, in April 1982, had taken part in the first phase of the scheme, a three month tailor-made course in library management at Loughborough.

Both phases have been financed by the Overseas Development Administration and it is expected that five or six librarians on the course in Pakistan will be selected for a third phase of further training at Loughborough later this year.

New directions project and newsletter

“New Directions in Library and Information Science Education”, an 18-month research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Libraries and Learning Technologies, has published its first progress report in the form of a *Newsletter* (March 1983), available free of charge. The project seeks to determine the present and future competencies needed by library and information science professionals and relevant educational requirements.

Direct inquiries to:

Dr. J.M. Griffiths, Project Director,
King Research, Inc.,
600 Executive Blvd.,
Rockville, MD 20852,
U.S.A.

FID/ET Register of education and training activities

Under a contract between FID and UNESCO, FID/ET is preparing the second edition of the *Register of education and training activities in librarianship, information science and archives*, to appear in 1984. Information included in UNESCO's parallel publication, *The world guide to library schools and training courses in documentation* (Bingley/UNESCO, 1981), will for the most part not be duplicated in the Register.

Inquiries may be sent to:

FID/ET,
School of Information Studies,
Syracuse University,
Syracuse, NY 13210,
U.S.A.

Training Seminar on the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP)

One of the recommendations of the International Congress on the Universal Availability of Publications held in Paris in May 1982 was that the UAP programme should be made more widely known such that UAP can be implemented at the regional and national levels. To this end the International Office for UAP of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), with UNESCO support, organized a three-day seminar in Boston Spa, U.K. from 21 to 23 February 1983.

Participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean were briefed on the main components of the UAP programme, the present state of development of the programme and how to promote it in their countries and region, for example by conferences or written communications. They can be contacted for inquiries about UAP development in their region or to ensure their participation in fostering UAP at the national or regional levels:

- Mr Subhas Biswas, Director, Central Secretariat Library, Government of India, Department of Culture, G. Block, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi, India; - Ms Stephney Ferguson, Director, National Library of Jamaica, 12 East Street, P.O.B. 823, Kingston, Jamaica W.I., tel. 922 06 20;
- Mr Jiang Kai, Head of International Publications Exchange, Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China, P.O. Box 640, Beijing, People's Republic of China, tel.: 46 47 46;
- Ms Else Martinez, Bibliographical Resources Section, Colombian Institute for the Development of Higher Education, Apt. Aéreo 21817, Bogotá D.E., Colombia, tel.: 45 91 06;
- Ms Sally N'Jie, Chief Librarian, National Library of The Gambia, National Library, P.O. Box 552, Banjul, The Gambia, tel.: 8312.

Asian Regional Seminar on Information User Orientation: Needs, Methods and Trends

This regional seminar was organized from 2 to 12 November 1982 by the Institute of Library Science of the University of the Philippines in association with the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines and UNESCO's General Information Programme. It was one of a series of regional seminars, workshops and short courses organized on specific topics over the past three years as an integral part of its programmes contributing to the development of effective and efficient information systems and services in the countries of South-East Asia in particular.

The seminar was attended by twenty-seven participants from ten countries of the region, mainly persons working in institutes of higher education and interested in computerized information systems and online searching. Some forty observers, mostly from the postgraduate course at ILS, also took part.

The programme included lectures, demonstrations and practical work on the overall aspects of the basics of user education, work on the use of audio-visual aids in user orientation programmes and on computerized information systems. UNESCO's role in assisting in the development of national and international policies and activities was also presented.

The evaluation carried out amongst participants during the final session produced a useful and constructive assessment of the course and showed that it was generally considered to have been productive and successful. Recommendations were addressed to UNESCO, encouraging the Organization to take concrete action to assist the development of courses and seminars on user orientation in library schools of the region, to facilitate the dissemination of PGI documents, to provide equipment and facilities for worldwide information retrieval and to promote the idea of an automated co-operative network for information retrieval at national and possibly regional levels.

Conferences, seminars

'Education for librarianship at grassroot level' is the theme of a seminar to precede the 50th IFLA conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in 1984. The seminar will be held at the Mombasa Beach Bandari College from 12th to 18th August 1984.

Permanent courses

European Institute for Information Management

'Information as resource' will be the theme of a new programme. The European Institute for Information Management in Luxembourg is governed by a Board of Trustees representing both business and the public sector in five countries, and is

administered by a select faculty of European information science specialists. Matriculation from a university programme and proficiency in either French or English are requirements. Students may register for individual courses or combinations of courses as well as for the entire programme of 600 hours (cost: 100 000 f-Lux).

For information write to:

European Institute for Information Management,
13 Rue de Bragance,
L-1255 Luxembourg.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem offers a Masters degree in Library Science, with or without a specialization in archival studies. Studies leading to a Qualified Librarian's or Qualified Archivist's diploma are also offered. Students entering any of these programmes may choose one of five tracks:

- (1) public and school libraries;
- (2) academic and special libraries and information centres;
- (3) libraries of Jewish studies and research in Judaica;
- (4) information science;
- (5) archive studies.

The 2- or 3-year course of studies allows at most junctures for Judaic options. Students electing archival studies must choose the archival programme at the beginning of their studies; other courses are chosen at the end of the first year. Competence in either French or German – in special cases Arabic, Russian, or Spanish – as a second language is required.

For further information, inquire of:

School of Library and Archive Studies,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
Givat-Ram Jerusalem 91904, Israel

Archivology programme in Uruguay

The Escuela Universitaria de Bibliotecología y Ciencias Afines 'Ing. Federico E. Capurro'. Montevideo, Uruguay, with the support of the Inter-American Bank for Development (BID), is introducing a four-semester programme in Archivology this year. A secondary-school diploma is required for admission; completion of the programme certifies its graduates as archivists.

For more information, write to:

Universidad de la Republica,
Escuela Universitaria de Bibliotecología y Ciencias Afines, 'Ing. Federico E. Capurro'.
Tristian Narvaja 1427, Montevideo, Uruguay.

New educational programme in Hungary

The Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, Bölcsészettudományi Kar, Könyvtártudományi Tanszék (ELTE Faculty of Arts, Department of Library Science) initiated a new programme for Professional Education. The two-year post-graduate course is aimed at the training of information personnel for industry, research and development institutes, and documentation centres.

For details contact: Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem Könyvtártudományi Tanszék,
H-1364 Budapest 5,
Egyetem Ter 1-3,
Hungary.

Training aids*Training / education file for DARE*

UNESCO's Social Science Documentation Centre plans to add a new file, Inventory of Training and Education Facilities Concerning Information and Documentation in the Social Sciences, to its computerized data retrieval system DARE. The inventory for the new file is being compiled for UNESCO by the FID Social Science Information and Documentation Committee (FID/SD) Ad hoc Group 'Inventory', through a questionnaire.

Inquiries about the inventory process should be addressed immediately to:

Monika Grefkes-Heinz,
c/o Freie Universität Berlin,
Leistelle Politische Dokumentation,
Paulinenstrasse 22,
D-1000 Berlin 45, F.D.R.

Research Interview videotape

The Department of Information Studies of the University of Sheffield has prepared a teaching videotape entitled *The Research Interview*. This 57-minute programme is designed to introduce students to interview techniques through structured role-playing episodes. A set of tutor's notes accompanies the programme, which is available in VHS, VCR, Betamax, or U-Matic formats. Price, including post and packaging, is £85.

For further information, contact:

Department of Information Studies,
University of Sheffield,
Sheffield S10 2TN,
England, U.K.

The Chemistry Information Learning Package

This package contains a teacher's manual, student handbook, two tape-slide programmes, two audio-cassette programmes, posters, and questionnaires. Additional handbooks and questionnaires may be purchased to supplement the complete package, but only posters may be bought separately. Price of the package: £160. Additional handbooks are £2.50 each; questionnaires, 20 p. each; posters £2 each.

For further information, inquire of:

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Polytechnic Products Ltd.,
Ellison Building,
Ellison Place,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 8ST,
England, U.K.

Research awards*A teaching package for experimental methods in information retrieval*

In order to alert students to the ways in which online bibliographic retrieval systems may develop in the future, and to provide 'hands on' experience of searching using not readily available and advanced methods of information retrieval, F. Wood and P. Willett of Sheffield University propose to develop a teaching package which would enhance courses in mechanical information retrieval. The package will provide a substantial and evaluated database on which searches based on predefined user queries could be carried out and evaluated using recall and precision measures, in addition to the more usual *ad hoc* queries.

Further information is available from:

P. Willett and F. Wood,
University of Sheffield Postgraduate School of Information Studies,
Western Bank,
Sheffield S10 2TN,
England, U.K.
Tel. 0742-78555.

European Space Agency – College of Librarianship Wales

The College of Librarianship Wales has been awarded a 10-month research grant to produce a training package for ESA/IRS.

Research Director is Dr. J.A. Large and Research Assistant, C.J. Armstrong. The project began in August 1983.

Further details from:

Dr. J.A. Large,
College of Librarianship Wales,
Llanbadarn Fawr,
Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 3AS,
Wales, U.K.

Research reports

The Schools Information Retrieval project – SIR

The British Library awarded a series of grants, totalling approximately £50 000 over two years, to develop a microcomputer-based information retrieval system for use in secondary schools and to assess its effectiveness. The system demonstrated to schoolchildren the basic principles of information storage and retrieval and has provided a practical system which can be used in the classroom to locate teaching and research materials. This system is known as SIR (Schools Information Retrieval). Six schools participated in the project. The project team supplied each school with a complete package comprising the specially written software, user manuals, and a small demonstration database of about 600 items on current world problems. The team also gave training to staff in the schools involved. The software was written to run initially on a Research Machines 380Z microcomputer, a machine chosen because of its wide use in secondary schools in the United Kingdom, and three of the participating schools were lent a microcomputer by the British Library Research and Development Department for the duration of the project. Since the completion of the project in 1982, the British Library has sought arrangements for the commercial distribution of the SIR software and is hoping shortly to conclude an agreement with Research Machines Ltd for the distribution rights for SIR to run on Research Machines stand-alone disc-based and network machines. In addition, the Department of Industry has funded the conversion of the initial SIR package into a version which will run on the disc-based BBC Microcomputer Model B. Arrangements for the distribution of this version are also currently under negotiation.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. H.A. Pinnock,
British Library Research and Development Department,
2 Sheraton Street,
London W1V 4BH,
England, U.K.
Tel. 01-636 1544 ext. 451.

The report on the SIR project will be published this summer as LIR report 15 in the British Library Research and Development Department's new Library and Information Research Reports series. The price will be approximately £12.00, and those wishing to send advance orders to the address below will be sent a pro-forma invoice on publication stating the actual price.

Publications Section,
The British Library Lending Division,
Boston Spa,
Wetherby,
West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ,
England, U.K.

Educating information users in schools (Research review no. 4, 1983)

With a generation of schoolchildren poised for entry into the 'information society' a review of research is timely, both for reflecting upon past work and for identifying future trends and developments. Over 100 studies are reviewed, drawn from several educational sectors and disciplines. Institutions whose work is cited include the British Library, the National Foundation for Educational Research, the Council for Educational Technology, the Schools Council and the Microelectronics Education Programme.

Copies of this review may be obtained from the address below by sending a cheque or postal order for £3.00 for U.K. addresses or US \$5.00 for overseas addresses. Please make cheques payable to 'British Library'. There is a 20% discount on orders for five or more copies. Reviews will only be sent on receipt of payment.

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England, U.K.