

## NEWS

### U.S. statistical report

The library and information science education statistical report, published annually by the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), makes it evident that 1983–1984 “was not a year of great progress for library and information science.” According to F. William Summers, who wrote the summary and analysis, the dominant impression gained from the individual reports on faculty, students, curriculum, income and expenditures, and continuing education, based on answers to questionnaires, is one of “schools struggling to hold on and to maintain quality in the face of adversity and reversal.” Summers considers this a sad commentary during a time when the discipline with which these schools deal is said to be exploding and growing more critically important.

Data for the report were collected through two questionnaires. The first, sent directly to school deans and directors, requested confidential salary information about full-time faculty members. Data for the second part of the faculty section and the remainder of the report were collected through a more extensive questionnaire in five parts sent from the office of the ALISE executive secretary. The response rate to the questionnaire reached 100% in 1982. The 1983 response rate was 96% and the current report reflects a response rate of 93%. Four schools – Drexel, Mississippi, St. Johns and San Jose – did not respond. Among the associate member schools only 27% responded. However since there is no other source of information about the programmes ALISE has decided to continue to make every effort to gather data about them. Single copies of the report are available at cost for schools which have contributed data to the edition. Copies of the report are available at a nominal charge to other schools, institutions and individuals.

*Information hotline 17 (June 1985)*

### University and business cooperation

The Queen’s University of Belfast is establishing a Centre for Information Management, which will provide courses designed to assist managers to make decisions when changing over to the new technology.

The Centre will offer an M.Sc. course (both full-time and part-time) together with short courses for professional and executive staff. Course content will include the characteristics of information, the factors affecting the transfer of information, the design of information systems and the changeover to new systems.

The Centre will also carry out research and consultancy in both the private and

public sectors.

For further information contact:

Dr. W.J. Martin,  
Department of Library and Information Studies,  
The Queen's University of Belfast,  
Belfast BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland, U.K.

### **Networking**

The Department of Librarianship, Strathclyde University, Glasgow, Scotland has recently secured funding of £40,000 to help establish the first fully networked LIS department in the U.K. The network, based around IBM's PC/XT/AT range of microcomputers, will be used to raise the 'information awareness' of staff and students alike and to support teaching and research within the Department.

### **Satellites and librarianship: the possibilities**

The launch of Australia's first communications satellites to take place in October 1985 has caused considerable comment in various circles, particularly over the last few months. A number of institutions have already conducted or are planning trials, and holding discussions on how best to make use of the satellite once it is orbit.

Mr. Roy Lundin, Head of the Department of Librarianship and Teaching Studies and Coordinator of Continuing Education at Brisbane College of Advanced Education, has been involved in the development of plans for the use of satellites as a means of providing both pre-service and in-service education.

How best to employ satellites as a communication device formed the topic of the first activity of the Queensland Branch of the Library Association for 1985. On March 19, Roy Lundin addressed members of the Association on 'Satellites and Librarianship: the Possibilities'. At the conclusion a connection via the present ATS-1 (an old NASA) satellite with the following centres occurred:

- Canberra College of Advanced Education,
- Caricornia Institute of Advanced Education,
- Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education,
- Darwin Institute of Technology,
- Footscray Institute of Technology,
- Western Australian Institute of Technology.

### **New professorship**

The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System Friday (June 14) established the Louis T. Yule Regents Professorship in Library and Information

Science at University of Texas at Austin.

The professorship was established in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science with \$100,000 in previously approved matching funds under the Regents' Endowed Teachers and Scholars Program.

The late Mr. Yule, of Georgetown, was a 1933 University of Texas Austin graduate who bequeathed an undivided 25 per cent of his estate to the College of Engineering for unrestricted use.

### **CRUS change**

CRUS has changed its name from Centre for Research on User Studies to Consultancy and Research Unit, Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield. The new title indicates that the status and funding arrangements of CRUS have been changed. From 1 January 1985, CRUS ceased to be a designated research centre of the British Library Research and Development Department. It is now a consultancy and advice unit of the Department of Information Studies. Core funding for the reconstituted CRUS is provided jointly by the British Library Research and Development Department and the University of Sheffield. In the first instance British Library funding will cover the period 1985-87.

The Consultancy and Research Unit aims to build upon and extend the range of expertise developed by its predecessor and staff at the Department of Information Studies. This continuity is recognized in the retention of the name – CRUS. The unit will offer advice, and undertake research and consultancy, in a broad range of information environments – libraries, business, industry, administration. Special attention will be devoted to problems arising from the application of information technology to organizational information systems and to the effective exploitation of information systems and sources by all types of users.

A brochure detailing the services offered by the Unit is available from:

Consultancy and Research Unit,  
Department of Information Studies,  
University of Sheffield,  
Sheffield S10 2TN, U.K.

### **Research**

#### *Information research*

The British Library has recently awarded a grant of £29,750 to the Department of Library and Information Studies, The Queen's University of Belfast, for carrying out research into the information needs of, and information provision for, the industrial, commercial and agricultural sectors in Northern Ireland. The project is to run for a period of eighteen months commencing 1 October 1985 and will cover the following

aspects: to investigate the extent and within certain limits the quality of information provision by libraries and information units in Northern Ireland, with emphasis on those services offering industrial, commercial and agricultural information; to discover the extent of the match between the actual provision of information and the needs and demands of people working in the above sectors; to assess the potential for information provision, given the existing infrastructure, the present state and probable short-term future developments in the use of information technology, and taking into account attitudes on the part of librarians, information workers and information consumers.

Further information from:

Dr. W.J. Martin,  
Department of Library and Information Studies,  
The Queen's University of Belfast,  
Belfast BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland, U.K.

#### *Scottish academic libraries study*

The Department of Librarianship, University of Strathclyde, has been awarded a research grant of £15,000 for a study of the stock of the National Library of Scotland and the Universities of Aberdeen, Edingburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews to determine the extent to which cooperation in the compilation of a computer database of retrospective records would be beneficial. The study will also look at the degree to which the holdings of the participant libraries contribute distinctively to the U.K. national resource and at possible cooperation in conservation effort. The grant consists of £10,000 from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and £5,000 from the Pilgrim Trust.

Further details from:

Ms. T. Bunch,  
Department of Librarianship,  
Livingstone Tower,  
26, Richmond Street,  
Glasgow G1 1XH, Scotland, U.K.

#### **Publications**

##### *International guide to library and information science education*

The *International guide to library and information science education*, edited by Josephine Riss Fang and Paul Nauta, and prepared by a Working Group of the Section on Library Schools and Other Training Aspects, is No. 32 in the series, IFLA Publications. The aim of the Guide is to offer an overview of the educational professional programmes in individual countries so that a basis for comparison and

international recognition of professional qualifications will be possible. The data were gathered by a questionnaire designed in English and translated into French, Spanish and Russian by members of the Working Group, who had been assigned geographical areas of responsibility. The Guide is arranged by country (101 are listed) in alphabetical order. For each country a brief introductory scheme of the general educational system is given, in which the educational levels are identified. After the general educational system follows the entries for the individual library and information science education institutions (526 included). They are arranged by name of place in alphabetical order and numbered consecutively.

The publication is available from IFLA's publisher, K.G. Saur Verlag (Postfach 71 1009, D-8000 München 71, FRG) for DM 120.000 (for IFLA Members, DM 90.000) ISBN3-598-20396-9

#### *New UNESCO/IFLA contract*

IFLA will be responsible for carrying out preparatory work for a third revised edition of the World guide to library schools and training courses in documentation. The preparatory work will include a careful study of the scope and contents of the Guide based on an evaluation of an earlier edition of the World Guide and other publications of the same type. Particular attention will be given to the areas covered, e.g. the degree to which archival training programmes are to be included. Proposals will be made concerning the types and levels of training to be included in the guide (e.g. para-professional, secondary school level, graduate and post-graduate training, refresher courses, continuing education) and investigations on to what extent information on the curriculum should be provided will be undertaken.

#### **Seminar**

##### *Information research*

The Inter-University Centre for Postgraduate Studies in Dubrovnik will be host for the forthcoming seminar called 'Information Research' to be held from May 19-27, 1986. The Seminar will focus on research policy and practice in the field of information science and librarianship. Particular attention will be given to the planning of research programmes and agendas; to the evaluation of research activity; and to the dissemination of research results to the practitioner community.

The aims of the Seminar are to provide a wide-angled review of current trends and practice in information research and to highlight the benefits to be derived by developing nations. Whenever possible research applications, techniques and results will be assessed in relation to the particular needs and problems of countries such as Yugoslavia. Specific topics or areas warranting investigation will be identified.

Dr. Ivan Mihel, Director of the Referral Centre of the University of Zagreb and Dean R.M. Hayes of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, will co-direct the event and several interna-

tional organizations such as the British Council and the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) have already agreed to co-sponsor the Conference.

The official language of the Conference is English and the participation free is \$60 for each section and includes the collected abstracts and refreshments in the breaks between sessions.

Participants from Yugoslavia and abroad are invited to submit short contribution papers presenting their experience in terms of their national background, which will serve as an opportunity for an exchange of experience and views. The abstracts of papers (in English) should be sent by January 15, 1986. The accepted papers will be included in the book of abstracts and time will be allocated for short presentations.

For further information please contact:

Neva Tudor-Silović,  
Referral Centre of the University of Zagreb, IRCIHE,  
P.O. Box 327,  
YU-41001 Zagreb, Yugoslavia.  
Tel.: (041) 422-965; telex 22206 yu bich.