

NEWS

Malaysian-made software for libraries in Malaysia

The School of Library and Information Science, Institut Teknologi Mara (ITM), has since January 1984 been working together with NEC Business Computers Sdn. Bhd., to develop a computerized library package, using microcomputers which would be useful to small libraries in Malaysia.

There are four components of this package, namely IRS (information retrieval service), cataloguing, acquisitions, and circulation. The IRS component is being developed as a first step to be followed by the other three packages. The final objective is to have an integrated library package when the other three components are fully completed.

Origins

The project originated as an academic project undertaken by final-year students to test the capability of microcomputers in handling an integrated library system. The project was based on the ITM branch campus library in Petaling Jaya, which was used as the basis for systems analysis and design. It was given the name SISPUKOM (Sistem Perpustakaan Berkomputer or Computerized Library System).

The project involves the use of microcomputers, two units of which were loaned by NEC (BCSB). It is intended that the final package, if found compatible for use on a minicomputer, would be applied to the branch library on such a machine.

The prototype version of SISPUKOM was launched in May 1984.

The IRS system

The IRS (information retrieval service) system was selected as the first module because it was considered to be most directly useful to users. Under this system, a selective dissemination of information (SDI) is offered to users. Each time the library receives a new document (book, journal article, or pamphlet), its contents are indexed and abstracted (summarized), and the summary is channelled to a particular user if its subject matter matches with a subject area listed in the user's profile kept in the computer file. The IRS system also enables the user to do retrospective searching (RS) in the computer file for relevant documents from among the total number of documents in the file.

The usefulness of the IRS system from the library's point of view is that it replaces manual searching which may be time-consuming. Such a system is also supposed to ensure the accuracy of retrieving the required documents.

Database design

The IRS software operates on the DBASE II Version 2.4 package which is a convenient package for developing a database management system.

System design

Two lecturers from ITM, one from the School of Library and Information Science, another from the School of Computer Science with the input from the professional staff of the ITM Library at Jalan Othman, carried out the initial work of system analysis and system design. Two programmers from NEC Business Computers Sdn. Bhd. helped with programming and provided other facilities such as machines and documentation. The SISPUKOM itself is the brainchild of Dr. Katni Kamsono Kibat, the former head of the School of Library and Information Science, who initiated the project in January 1984.

The future of SISPUKOM

The possibility of converting this package into another programming language to make it run on a minicomputer is being examined.

Now that the IRS (microcomputer) version is completed, the development of the other three subsystems (i.e. cataloguing, acquisition, and circulation) to achieve the final objective of developing an integrated library system is expected.

European initiative on standards for files on optical disks

A new body, the *Optical Disk Forum*, announced that it was taking the initiative in getting together interested parties in Europe to attempt to reach early agreement on working standards for optical disks at the logical files level. Such an agreement will complement many of the agreements already reached by hardware manufacturers concerning standards reached in areas such as that of the CD-ROM.

Welcoming the initiative, the Commission of the European Communities agreed to provide meeting facilities for the Forum's inaugural meeting, which took place on Wednesday January 22nd at the building of DG XIII in Luxembourg.

The Information Industry Association (IIA) in the United States has already set up, within its Standards Committee, a body seeking to agree similar working standards for file layout on CD-ROMs; Harry Collier, for the Optical Disk Forum, announced that the Forum would be seeking to cooperate closely with the IIA group in the hope of achieving a joint working standard between Europe and the U.S.A. thus giving information providers the maximum initial market impetus. The Forum would also be considering what could be done in addition to standardization to enable information providers to use the new optical technology to reach a broad and extensive market as early as possible.

Funding for conference

The H.W. Wilson Foundation has granted \$3,500 to the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) towards the support of the ALISE Centennial Conference to be held at Columbia University on June 27–28, 1986. Mr. Leo Weins, President of the Foundation, has notified Norman Horrocks, ALISE President, of the award. The H.W. Wilson Foundation has been a continued and valued supporter of ALISE activities.

Seminar reports

Seminar / Workshop on Computer Applications, Malaysia, 2–6 July 1985

The School of Library and Information Science, Institut Teknologi Mara (ITM), successfully organized the above Seminar on Computer Applications for practising librarians in Malaysia. This was the second time the School held such a seminar on computer applications in libraries. Participants were given lectures on the theoretical aspects of information retrieval followed by a series of hands-on exercises at terminals which were made available (2 participants to 1 terminal) with the kind cooperation of NEC Business Computers.

Four lecturers, three from the School of Library and Information Science and one from the School of Computer Science, ITM, took turns to explain and work with participants on their exercises. On the final day of the Workshop, participants had an opportunity to witness an online information search through DIALOG and IP Sharp which was demonstrated by one of the information agencies in Kuala Lumpur.

The 34 participants felt that they had indeed updated themselves with computer technology and went away with a better idea of how they could make use of microcomputers for their library operations.

The IRS software, developed by the School and used for the Workshop, is now being operated in the demonstration library of the School to the satisfaction of the library's staff. The school intends to organize other similar workshops when the software for other subsystems are ready some time in 1986.

Map librarianship

The Indonesian National Scientific Documentation Centre–Indonesian Institute of Sciences (PDIN-LIPI), the National Library of Australia (NLA), and the Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB), jointly organized a Workshop on Map Librarianship from 27 August to 6 September, 1985 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The sessions were on storage and equipment; different types of cartographic materials and their usage; selection and acquisition of maps; processing and storage of maps; map cataloguing; map reference work; list and extension of bibliography; conservation and preservation of maps.

The workshop leader was Ms. Glenys McIver, Map Curator, NLA.
More information is available from:

Zul Herman, Staff Coordinator and Training Division,
Indonesian Institute of Sciences,
National Scientific Documentation Centre,
Jl. Jenderal Gatot Subroto,
P.O. Box 3065/Jkt.,
Jakarta, Indonesia.

Research award

The Department of Information Science at Strathclyde University has been awarded £20,000 by the British Library R&D Department to investigate the application of expert systems in classification.

The 15-month project will analyze the requirements of classification with a view to developing an expert system which will derive classification numbers from natural-language input. The question of vocabulary control is seen as a significant problem, and the project will develop techniques to overcome this, with specific reference to the differing requirements of the humanities and the sciences. A further consideration will be the way in which an expert system for classification can integrate with existing automation procedures.

Further details are available from:

Paul F. Burton,
Department of Information Science,
University of Strathclyde,
Livingstone Tower,
Richmond Street,
Glasgow G1 1XH, U.K.
Tel. (041) 552-4400 Ext. 3706.

Workshops, seminars, etc.

Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung

The German Foundation for International Development (Education, Science and Documentation Centre, Information and Documentation Training Section) offers the following courses as part of the 1986 Information and Documentation Training Programme:

– *Basic concepts of bibliographic and documentation work*, Seychelles, June 1986 or January 1987 (Code: GP 25-35-86).

Programme content: Classification, cataloguing and indexing; promotion of the use of libraries; the school library as a teaching and learning resource centre; administrative tasks.

This seminar is co-organized by the Ministry of Education and Information. It is open to library assistants and school librarians in the Seychelles only. Participants will be selected by the partner institution.

– *Introduction to librarianship and documentation*, Gaborone/Botswana, 30 June–1 August 1986 (Code: GP 25-36-86).

Programme content: Basic concepts of librarianship and documentation; information sources, packaging, dissemination and retrieval; collection development; administrative tasks.

This long vacation programme is co-organized by the University of Botswana/Department of Library Studies. It is open to professionals without previous formal education from all countries of the Eastern and Southern African region. Teaching materials will be available at the end of 1985.

– *Use of information for technology development*, Dakar/Senegal, October 1986 (one week) (Code: GP 25-44-86).

Programme content: Use of research results by technologists; current trends in technology transfer; patents, licenses and trade agreements; technology-related I&D services; management of industrial information; identification of teaching materials for technology information.

This workshop is co-organized by FID/ET and co-sponsored by UNESCO. It is open to specialists and senior information personnel and decision makers of the subject area from all African countries. The programme will be conducted in English and French. A report is expected to be published in early 1987.

– *Management of information services*, Kigali/Rwanda, October/November 1986 (Code: GP 25-43-86).

Programme content: Management methods and techniques for libraries and documentation centres; application of information services; user analysis, education; information handling.

This programme is co-organized by the Kagera River Basin Management Organization and will be conducted in French. Participants will be drawn by the partner institution from Rwanda and Burundi only. A report is expected to be published in mid-1987.

For further information please contact:

Lutz Hüttemann,
DSE Bonn,
Postfach 300 380,
5300 Bonn 3, F.R.G.

or any of the indicated partner institutions.

Library Administrators Development Programme

The College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, is planning the Twentieth Annual Library Administrators Development Programme, to be held May 4–16, 1986. Dr. John Rizzo, Professor of Management at Western Michigan University, will serve as the Director. Participants will include senior administrative personnel of large library systems—public, research, academic, special, governmental, and school—from North America and abroad.

Seminar sessions will concentrate on the principal administrative issues which senior managers encounter. Leadership, motivation, communication, personnel policy, decision making, problem solving, financial planning and control, performance appraisal, market and marketing research, legal issues in administration, the impact of technology, and the planning of change are among the issues considered in lecture, case analysis, group discussion, and seminar.

The two-week resident programme will be held at the University of Maryland's Donaldson Brown Center, Port Deposit, Maryland. Contact:

Marcia Hayleck, Administrative Assistant,
Library Administrators Development Programme,
College of Library and Information Services,
University of Maryland,
College Park, MD 20742, U.S.A.

Permanent courses*Information education in Australia*

Canberra College of Advanced Education offers an interdisciplinary graduate programme in information and records management, allowing a special focus in records and archives. Undergraduates study information in a context that extends beyond the library, and choose a specialization in their fourth semester from: library systems and services, information retrieval, research and archival resources, or youth services. For more details contact:

Canberra College of Advanced Education,
P.O. Box 1,
Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616, Australia.

Information courses in Chile

A variety of courses offered jointly each year by the Comision Nacional de Investigacion Cientifica y Tecnologia (CONICYT), Direccion de Informacion y Documentacion (DID), and Centro Nacional de Informacion y Documentacion (CENID), are held in Santiago, Chile. On the schedule: telecommunications tech-

nology and information systems, information system cooperation, and the scientific review/journal as a vehicle of knowledge diffusion (4–8 November 1985). For more details contact:

Srta. María Cecilia Mosso Z.,
Coordinadora del Programa de Entrenamiento,
Canadá 308,
Casilla 297-V, Providencia,
Santiago, Chile.

Education in China

Both formal university educational programmes and continuing education courses are available to information science students at the Library Science Department of Wuhan University in China. The National Sci-Tech Committee (NSTC) has worked with the University to develop a training centre for scientific and technical information training. The courses offered include sci-tech document management and retrieval. For more details, write to:

Library Science Department,
Wuhan University,
Wuchan, Wuhan, People's Republic of China.

Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE)

Within the framework of the German Federal Government's scholarship programme, DSE is taking care of *education and advanced training* of librarians, documentalists and archivists from developing countries up to the *diploma level*. In general, this training is organized in cooperation with selected training institutions appropriate for this purpose. The training of applicants from *developing countries in Africa* is preferably organized in their home region or in a neighbouring region—this has proved to be more suitable to the professional needs than the training in an industrialized country. As to the African region which is at present the focus of DSE's training efforts in the field of information and documentation, a close cooperation with the following training institutions has been established:

1. *Université de Dakar, Ecole de Bibliothécaires, Archivistes et Documentalistes (EBAD), Dakar, Senegal.*
 - 1.1. Diploma in Library Studies (2 academic years).
 - 1.2. Diploma in Archival Studies/Documentation (2 academic years),
Course language: French. Intake: October every year. Entry requirements: Baccalaureat or accepted equivalence. This programme is open to applicants from all francophone African countries.
2. *University of Botswana, Department of Library Studies (UB/LS), Gaborone/Botswana.*
 - 2.1. Certificate Course in Library Studies (1 academic year).

2.2. Diploma Course in Library Studies (2 academic years).

Course language: English. Intake: August every year. Entry requirements: GCE "A" or "O" level, good working knowledge of English. (Work experience is an advantage.) Programme 2.1 is open to applicants from Lesotho, Swaziland, Mauritius, Seychelles and Somalia. Programme 2.2 is open to applicants from all anglophone Eastern and Southern African countries (without own training institutions leading to a Diploma in Librarianship).

3. *University of Zambia, Department of Library Studies (UNZA/LS), Lusaka/Zambia.*

3.1. Diploma Course in Library Studies (2 academic years).

Course language: English. Intake: October every year. Entry requirements: 4 acceptable GCE "O" level credit passes (one of which must be in English). This programme is open to applicants from Tanzania and Malawi.

4. *National Archives of India, School of Archival Studies (NAI), New Delhi, India.*

4.1. Diploma Course in Archival Studies (1 calendar year).

Course language: English. Intake: September every year. Entry requirements: At least 2 years of working experience in an archival institution or in an archival function. This programme is open to applicants from all anglophone Eastern and Southern African countries.

5. *Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre (INSDOC), New Delhi, India.*

5.1. Advanced Training Course in Information Science (2 calendar years).

Course language: English. Intake: September every year. Entry requirements: Basic educational degree (preferably in library studies) and at least 2 years of working experience in librarianship/documentation; applicants designated to be promoted into higher position after successful completion of the course.

Remarks. The first year of the programme takes place in New Delhi. The second year, during which a dissertation is to be written, takes place in the home country. Only the first year will be sponsored by DSE!

This programme is open to applicants from all anglophone Eastern and Southern African countries.

Application procedures

The *necessary forms* (Application for a Government Scholarship of the Federal Republic of Germany for Professional Education or Advanced Training IN COUNTRY or in a THIRD COUNTRY) are obtainable at the *Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany* in the applicant's home country. The application must be forwarded by the superior(s) of the applicant. After filling in the forms, the *application has to be approved by the applicant's responsible government institution*, usually the Ministry of Manpower Planning (or any other relevant authority), and be returned to the Embassy.

The applicant's superior (via the mentioned national manpower planning authority) is responsible for the inclusion of the application into the bilateral negotiations on scholarship places within the so-called "free quota" of scholarships awarded to the respective country of the applicant. From the Embassy the application will be transmitted to DSE.

After a first selection of candidates and according to availability of funds, DSE will send the documents to the desired training institution. The final decision on the admission of applicants is then, however, up to those institutions. The applicant and his superior will be informed accordingly either by the relevant institution or by DSE via the Embassy.

Due to administrative procedures it is advisable to apply for scholarships within the second and third quarter of every year, *for the following year's intake*.

Please direct further inquiries on this scholarship programme to:

Lutz Hüttemann, Head, I&D Training Section,
German Foundation for International Development (DSE),
Hans-Böckler-Strasse 5,
5300 Bonn 3, F.R.G.

Publications

Regional user training seminar package

As a follow-up to a recommendation made at the Second Meeting of Caribbean Ministers responsible for UNESCO Affairs, St Lucia, July 1982, and as a contribution to the pilot project on the Coordinated Development of National Information Systems in the Caribbean Region, the University of the West Indies, Department of Library Studies, in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat Information and Documentation Section and the National Library of Jamaica, developed in 1983/1984, under a UNESCO contract, a teaching package for a standard three-day information users training seminar. The package was designed for persons engaged in research for senior government officials, in particular for those who conduct research for speech writing, preparation of ministry papers, cabinet submissions, etc. on behalf of heads of government, ministers and others. It was felt that such persons should be given the skills to enable them to use the resources of information more effectively and to recognize the value of information in the development and implementation of plans and in decision making.

The package was divided into six modules, the topics of which were the following: the concept of information needs, uses and services; the role of information in decision making; factors in information supply; sources of information; the role of the librarian/information specialist; problem-solving interaction.

The UNESCO contract also provided for extensive testing of the draft package in a series of three-day seminars held in 12 countries of the English-speaking Caribbean.

The evaluation carried out at the end of each of these seminars showed a high interest in this activity and confirmed the urgent need for user training at various levels. In order to follow up on this project, support is being given in 1985 to the University of the West Indies, Department of Library Studies, for the development

of the final version of the package which will be prepared on the basis of the evaluation and in the light of recommendations made during the numerous seminars.

It is hoped that the package will be widely used by institutions in the Caribbean region and that this material will give the impetus to continued user education programmes in Caribbean countries developing national information systems and to emphasize the importance of this activity.

Training materials

The Documentation Centre of the Division of the General Information Programme of UNESCO maintains a collection of brochures, study programmes and information leaflets concerning schools of library and information science from countries the world over. To keep this documentation up to date and to have a more complete collection of such material which is used by the UNESCO staff as well as by visitors to UNESCO, the Centre would appreciate receiving from schools of library and information science documentation of this nature. The material should be sent to:

Documentation Centre,
Division of the General Information Programme (PGI),
UNESCO,
7 place de Fontenoy,
75700 Paris, France.

Statistical report

The Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) announces publication of the sixth annual edition (1985) of the *Library and information science education statistical report*, the most comprehensive collection of statistical information about graduate library and information science education in the United States and Canada currently available. In the latest edition, data are presented for 74 graduate programmes which are Institutional or Associate Institutional members of ALISE. The time period covered by the sixth edition for most categories of information is the 1984–85 academic year.

The report consists of five sections, each of which deals with a separate aspect of library and information science education. The data for each section were compiled, analyzed, and reported on by a faculty member from a library and information science education programme. The sections of the report and their authors are:

- (1) faculty, Gary R. Purcell (Tennessee);
- (2) students, C. Glenn Sparks (Texas);
- (3) curriculum, Margaret Knox Goggin (Denver);
- (4) finance, Fred Roper (North Carolina);
- (5) continuing education, Timothy W. Sineath (Kentucky).

A "Summary and comparative analysis", by Kathleen M. Heim (Louisiana), provides a "summary of the entire report and a cross analysis of the various parts."

The report is edited by Timothy W. Sineath.

Copies of the last five editions (1981–1985) are available for \$15.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members from:

Executive Headquarters,
Association for Library and Information Science Education,
471 Park Lane,
State College, PA 16803-3208, U.S.A.

Online searching instruction

CCL-Train is a free online instruction programme which includes online database searching, a self-training manual, and a teaching pack for use in schools and other institutions. Write to:

ECHO 177,
route d'Esch,
L-1471 Luxembourg.

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EDRS,
P.O. Box 190,
Arlington, VA 22210, U.S.A.

Include payment in US dollars for cost of microfiche (MF) or paper copy (PC) plus additional funds to cover estimate of postage for shipping. Specify the ED number (6 digits).

(1) *Research goes to school II: How to go on-line to the information database*, by Joan Newman and Nancy Motomatsu, National Institute of Education, Washington, DC, 1985, 67 pp. (ED 254 242). MF \$0.97; PC \$5.65, plus postage.

This handbook is designed to provide educators with information about educational, technical, and sociological computer databases, and the related sources, vendors, training available, management concerns, and procedures for searching with students. Sample forms for a search log, search request, and search evaluation are included in the appendix.

(2) *Information resources on education and training for online searching*, ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources, Syracuse, NY, 1984, 3 pp. (ED 254 221). MF \$0.97; PC \$2.15, plus postage.

An annotated bibliography citing 10 articles and reports from 1977–1983 on education and training for online searching, with an emphasis on end-user training. Research literature, tools and techniques for training, and case studies are noted.

The role of technology in distance education

Edited by A.W. Bates, this 1984-volume (231 pages, £15,95) provides details on a wide range of technologies, and discusses aspects of distance education, including administration. It is available from:

Croom Helm Ltd.,
Provident House Burrell Row,
Beckenham, Kent BR3 1AT, U.K.

University library practices in developing countries

Students of library science and professional librarians can gain a clear view of current library developments in 8 Islamic countries, including collection development policies and planning of library buildings. Data are based on observations, questionnaires, interviews, and correspondence. By Ahmad Mazir, 1984, 207 pp. \$45.00, from:

Routledge Kegan Paul,
Nine Park Street,
Boston, MA 02108, U.S.A.

Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE)

In connection with its Information and Documentation Training Programme DSE has published reports and other documents in the field of librarianship, documentation, and archives for many years. The following publications are available and may be ordered free of charge by clearinghouses, training institutions, national library services and associations (and individuals, if related to their working situation or otherwise justified).

1. *Librarianship and documentation studies: a handbook of teaching and learning materials*, Volume 1. 1985. (DOK 1310 C/a). 134 pp.
2. *Manpower training needs: Proceedings and Papers of the Information Experts Meeting*. Harare, 18–21.3.1985. (DOK 1309 A/a). 159 pp.
3. *Country and institution progress reports*. (I&D working paper no. 2, supplement to DOK 1309 A/a). 45 pp.
4. *Establishment, function and management of a national library and documentation service*. Harare, 6–15.3.1985. (DOK 1308 A/a). 182 pp.
5. A. Musana. *Report of a study to determine the impact of ESAMI/DSE I&D Training Programmes 1980–82*. (I&D working paper no.1). 37 pp.
6. *Management of national documentation centres. Malawi Workshop Papers*. Blantyre, 6–14.3.1984. (DOK 1245 A/a). 95 pp.
7. *Information services for rural development and industry*. Arusha, 3–7.10.1983 and 10–21.10.1983. (DOK 1244 C/a). 75 pp.
8. *Budgeting and financial planning: Papers and Proceedings of the Information Experts Meeting*. Arusha, 23–27.5.1983. (DOK 1187 A/a). 120 pp.

9. *Management of information services*. Arusha, 9–20.5.1983. (DOK 1185 A/a). 94 pp.
10. *Library training in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa: a reader*. Berlin (West), 1–9.9.1982. (Working document). 467 pp.
11. *Follow-up Workshop on Management of Information Services*. Arusha, 25.10–6.11.1982. (DOK 1159 B/a). 35 pp.
12. *Health science library management and cooperation*. Arusha, 16.7–7.8.1982. (Working document). 21 pp.
13. *Management of agricultural information service*. Arusha, 22.2–6.3.1982. (DOK 1137 A/a). 82 pp.
14. *Evaluation of user seminars held in Southern Africa*. Gaborone, 22–23.10.1981 (DOK 1114 A/a). 40 pp.
15. *Use of information and documentation for planning and decision making*. Harare, 3–7.8.1981. (DOK 1099 A/a). 123 pp.
16. *Use of documentation and information for planning and decision making*. Swaziland, 6–10.8.1979. (DOK 1012 A/a). 27 pp.
17. *African AGRIS Training Seminar*. Nairobi, 23.4–4.5.1979. (DOK 1003 A/a). 131 pp.

All publications may be ordered free of charge from:

DSE Bonn,
I&D Training Section,
Postfach 300 380,
5300 Bonn 3, F.R.G.