

NEWS

Items for publication in the News are welcomed and should be sent to:

R.F. Guy
National Library of Scotland
312-320 Lawnmarket
Edinburgh EH1 2PJ
Scotland
UK

Appointments

University of California, Los Angeles

Dr Beverly Lynch has been appointed Dean of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Graduate School of Library and Information Science, effective from September 1, 1989. Robert M. Hayes, who had been the Dean of the School since 1974, retired from this position as of January 1, 1989 and has returned to full-time teaching and research.

Dr Lynch is a Professor of Library Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago and has been the University Librarian at that institution since 1977. Among other professional accomplishments, she has been Executive Secretary of the Association of College and Research Libraries and served as President of the American Library Association from 1985-86. As Dean, Dr Lynch will be responsible for the academic and administrative operation of the school, which currently has 16 faculty positions (full- and part-time inclusive) and 170 graduate students who are professional masters and PhD candidates. The UCLA Graduate School of Library and Information Science is recognized as one of the foremost library schools in the United States and under the leadership of Dean Lynch it will no doubt continue to enhance its reputation.

The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth

The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth has appointed D. Hywel E. Roberts to be the first head of the newly established Department of Information and Library Studies, the department formed by the merger of the College of Librarianship Wales (CLW) and UCW with effect from August 1, 1989.

Hywel Roberts is a graduate of the University College of Wales and a former student of CLW. Since 1983 he has been the Head of the Department of Welsh

Studies at CLW, which in recent years has attracted over £100,000 in research and development income. He has also been Vice Principal (Resources) of the College since 1984 with particular responsibility for the development of computer and information technology resources.

He is a member of the Library and Information Services Council (Wales) at the invitation of the Secretary of State for Wales, as well as a member of the Literature Committee of the Welsh Arts Council, and of various panels of the Welsh Books Council. He has been active in the work of the Welsh Library Association and is a member of the Courts of Governors of the National Library of Wales and the University College of Wales. He is the author and compiler of numerous articles, indexes, bibliographies and biographical reference works, which reflect his research and teaching activities—the book trade, information sources, and services and development planning. He has also undertaken consultancy studies in those areas for HTV and Mid-Wales Development in recent years.

Further information on the new department can be obtained from:

Olwen Daniel
Assistant Registrar
Old College
King Street
Aberystwyth
Dyfed SY23 2AX
Wales
UK

Tel: 0970 622048

Courses

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)

RMIT's Departments of Information Services and Business Information Systems commenced a new interdisciplinary coursework Master of Business (Information Technology) programme in February 1989. The programme aims to fill a gap in the provision of higher education in Australia by offering students study in the areas of information, technology and management in the one post-basic programme.

Subjects taken in the Information Management stream offered by the Department of Information Services in 1989 are Information Management, Information Technology in Libraries, Evaluation of Information Services and Research Methods Project. In addition there are a range of Business Systems subjects available, focusing on database developments and the information technology industry. Students in all streams undertake professional development subjects in the management and technology policy area. Those offered in 1989 are Principles of Management, Managing People and Social Impacts of Technology. These three subjects are taught by specialists in those fields from other RMIT Departments.

Subjects in this programme are offered in a variety of modes to suit the mainly part-time students from a wide variety of industrial and professional backgrounds who have enrolled. Most subjects are offered in 'condensed' mode, with weekend and holiday workshop sessions.

Applicants who have a relevant graduate diploma or four-year undergraduate degree can gain advanced standing for up to half the programme. The masters degree can then be completed in either one year of full-time study or two years of part-time study. Detailed information may be obtained by contacting:

Marianne Broadbent, Head
Department of Information Services
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
GPO Box 2476V
Melbourne VIC 3001
Australia

Online training

ESA-IRS

The original Trainee Programme—which allowed access to ESA-IRS training files only—has been upgraded to meet many requests from online training institutions. To the original programme, schedule A, have now been added two new schedules, B and C, which give access to the full information contained in a number of selected databases (see Table 1). Schedule A gives, for the yearly price of 1,000 AU, unlimited access to the training files listed in Table 1 for up to five passwords. Schedule B gives, for a fixed yearly price of only 2,500 AU, unlimited access time to the full files listed in Table 1 for up to five passwords. This schedule is intended for those institutions who need to make sure their budget is known in advance. Schedule C on the other hand provides unlimited access to the same files, but for any number of passwords. The difference here is that invoicing will be monthly and the chosen number of passwords is fixed for the contractual year.

All contracts are of yearly duration and have to be renewed at the user's initiative by prepayment of the fees mentioned (for schedules A and B). It is important to remember that the Trainee Programme is granted only to organizations carrying out bona fide training in the use of online retrieval systems and specifically formal supervised programmes. The online tutorials can be checked for any changes, particularly concerning new files added to the Trainee Programme.

Contract forms and further details are available from:

ESA-IRS ESRIN
Via Galileo Galilei
00044 Frascati (Rome)
Italy

Tel: +39 6 941801

Table 1
List of databases available under the trainee programme

<i>For schedule A: training</i>	
File No.	File Name
113	ABI/INFORM
118	AGRIS
112	CAB
38	CHEMABS
26	INIS(EDIN)
39	INSPEC
31	INSPEC INFO. SCIENCE
37	PASCAL
189	METADEX
<i>For schedules B&C (full files)</i>	
File No.	File Name
30	ABI/INFORM
35	ACOMPLINE
73	AFEE
52	ASFA
70	ASIAN GEO
71	BIIPAM CTIF
137	BIOBUSINESS
7	BIOSIS
40	CISDOC
36	CONFERENCE PAPERS INDEX
91	DELFT HYDRO
60	ENEL
24	EUDISED
20	FSTA
133	FSTA (VITIS)
251	FOOD SCIENCE CLUSTER
102	INTL. PHARM. ABS.
63	IPU's
43	IRRD
10	ISMEC
53	LABORDOC
87	LABORINFO
101	MATHEMATICS
82	MOLARS
128	NATO-PCO
6	NTIS
17	OCEANIC ABS
55	PACKABS
14	PASCAL
18	POLLUTION ABS
74	TRANSDOC
33	WORLD TRANSLATIONS IND.

Software

Training aids

Online Search Analyst is a new teaching software designed for library students, practising librarians, information specialists and others who are interested in conducting their own online searches. The program is a tutorial and a diagnostic aid; however, it assumes a degree of basic knowledge regarding online searching. The program has been written by Stephen P. Harter, Associate Professor, Indiana University. It is written in TURBO Pascal for IBM-PC microcomputers or IBM compatibles. The cost of the program is \$40 and includes postage and handling. For further information, contact:

Online Consultants of Indiana
4300 Cambridge Drive
Bloomington, IN 48401
USA

Due to the continuing interest shown at training courses and exhibitions, Discourse Interactive and Getting Started Training are planning to produce an updated revised version of *Online information retrieval* and *Getting started: an introduction to microcomputers for librarians*. The programs will be combined on one videodisc in order to make them widely available for library training. Both will have Microtext programming. The videodiscs could be used by novice trainees, library school students, professional staff or library users.

Getting started is based on the basic information pack produced by the Library Information Technology Centre. *Online information retrieval* provides training for online searching.

For further information please contact:

Getting Started Training
53 High Street
Ransbury
Marlborough
Wilts. SN8 2QN
UK

Tel: 0672 20113

MINISIS

The MINISIS Users Group met in Ottawa, Canada, in September 1988. Over 150 delegates from 32 countries who use MINISIS to manage textual and bibliographic data gathered to share information about their applications, problems and successes, to learn how to use the software to its fullest potential and to make suggestions on the future of MINISIS.

The MINISIS computer software was originally designed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to automate libraries and information

centres in developing countries. The system is now also used in the industrialized world. The MINISIS software is flexible and runs on minicomputer equipment (the Hewlett Packard 3000 series). At the moment MINISIS 'speaks' ten languages including Thai, Arabic and Chinese.

IDRC is planning to improve the MINISIS software so that it can run on smaller, faster and cheaper computers. Among other new features, MINISIS should be able to manage different types of data, including sound and image.

IDRC has set up two MINISIS resource centres, one in China and one in North Africa, and eventually a network of these centres will be able to support future releases of the software in developing countries.

Further information is available from:

IDRC Information Services Division
P.O. Box 8500
Ottawa
Ontario K1G 3HG
Canada

Directory

The Soft Help Association of Sarasota, Florida, has developed an innovative use of the 5¼-inch disk (MSDOS) as an information medium. This disk contains hundreds of items relating to instructional and research software, and word processing in a scholarly environment. The disk has full user instructions and help screen. No special skills are required to access the information.

The disk may be copied and reproduced for dissemination without restrictions. Master copies of the disk are available for \$5, and free masters will be provided to computer centre user services, conference organizers and other qualified distributors. Contact:

Paradigm Press
P.O. Box 1057
Osprey, FL 33559
USA

Xanadu publishing system

A Scottish university has been chosen to represent an innovative US supplier of interactive publishing systems in the UK and on the Continent. The Xanadu Operating Company is developing the world's most advanced storage software in the hypermedia field. Elisabeth Davenport in the Department of Information Science at Strathclyde University Business School will be responsible for investigating promising applications and maturing worthwhile opportunities.

Xanadu offers the electronic storage and publishing system designed by Ted Nelson of Autodesk Inc, the leading pioneer in the field. His system can manage multimedia information—text, graphics, illustrations, moving images, tables and recorded sound. A key element in this system is a sophisticated set of tools for

linking information at a fine level of detail. Thus, it provides publishers and suppliers of complex databases with powerful capabilities to organize, present and link information in different formats; and it enables organizations and individuals to become publishers and managers of information which they create, draw together and coordinate themselves by entirely original means.

Xanadu can be used on stand-alone computers or on networked workstations. The prototype of the system will be launched in November 1989 for Sun workstations; versions for the Mackintosh and IBM PCs (and compatibles) will follow in spring 1990. For publishers, managers of electronic office systems, and other large banks of information, the networked version offers an almost unlimited capacity to trace and transfer fine-grained knowledge. Xanadu is currently entering into negotiations with developers and vendors of the software in the UK and the rest of Europe. Enterprises interested in the opportunities should, in the first instance, contact:

Elisabeth Davenport
Department of Information Science
University of Strathclyde
Livingstone Tower
26 Richmond Street
Glasgow G1 1XH
Scotland
UK
Tel: 041 552 4400 ext. 3595

Databases

Tecnet

Tecnet is a database created by the European Centre for Work and Society, Maastricht, Netherlands. It gives detailed information on the demonstration projects that are currently part of the Eurotecnet network. These projects were put forward by Member States and represent a reasonable cross section of training approaches in the field of new information technologies and vocational training. The database is the complement of the second abridged edition of a compendium of information gathered by questionnaire. It covers such topics as educational setting, target groups, aims and contents, methods, training of trainers and relations with other projects.

Further details from:

Eurobrokers
B.P. 2761
L-1027 Luxembourg
Tel: + 352 45 4721-227
Fax: + 352 45 4727
Telex: 60538 ARLPD LU

Publications

Guide to CD-ROM

A document entitled 'Guide to CD-ROM' has been prepared by Anneli Hemburger, Technical Research Centre of Finland Information Service (VTT), and sponsored by FID and Unesco. This document comprises a state-of-the-art review of CD-ROM technology, hardware, software and applications in library and information work. It is meant to be used by a broad spectrum of information professionals, librarians, archivists, record managers and end-users in developed as well as in developing countries. For copies, contact:

Division of the General Information Programme
Unesco
7, place de Fontenoy
75700 Paris
France

New journal

A new quarterly journal entitled *The journal of interlibrary loan and information supply* (published by the Haworth Press) has been launched, since there is no practice-oriented, North American, widely available journal devoted to interlibrary loan librarians or interlibrary loan problems.

Authors are invited to submit manuscripts on the theme of the journal to the editor:

Leslie R. Morris
Directory of Libraries, Niagara University
Niagara University, NY 14109
USA
Tel: 716 285 1212 ext. 376
Fax: 716 285 3091

Guide to commands

The UK Online Users Group (UKOLUG) have issued their second edition of the *Quick guide to online commands*. Some fifteen hosts have been covered, including such non-British hosts as ESA, DIMDI, STN and Telesystemes Questel. Commands and features are divided into seven sections including system details, logging on and off, help features, developing and refining strategies, obtaining records and multiple file searching.

For information, contact:

UKOLUG
IIS
44 Museum Street
London WC1A 1LY
UK

Databases

The catalogue of the British Library Information Sciences Service (BLISS—formerly the Library Association Library) was made publicly available on the BLAISE-LINE service at the beginning of November 1988.

BLISS covers all aspects of libraries and librarianship including selection, cataloguing and classification, computer applications and library management. Its scope also includes book production and the book trade as well as information retrieval and the archival professions and practices.

The new file contains over 25,000 records and not only covers the important book collections at the British Library Information Sciences Service, but it also includes records for current periodicals, theses in information science and librarianship, some microforms and selected audiovisual material. All items acquired since 1976 are included together with a large proportion of older material. Most of the works are in English but there is strong coverage of Western European languages.

BLAISE-LINE subscribers have direct access to BLISS as part of their subscription. Staff in the BLAISE Information Services section can also search the file through BLAISE-LINE Search Service for people who do not have access to BLAISE-LINE.

More information on the BLISS online file is available from:

BLAISE Information Services
The British Library Bibliographic Services
2 Sheraton Street
London W1V 4BH
UK

Teaching aid

A CD-ROM on curriculum materials and developments has just been released in Britain. NERIS (National Educational Resources Information Service) offers a database about learning materials taken from curriculum development agencies, educational broadcasting networks, commercial organizations and universities. It features free text searching, together with access to a thesaurus of educational terms. Subscription (£120 per annum) provides three CD-ROMs a year and updates to the retrieval software, GEM/3 System Software, printed documents and hotline support.

Further information is available from:

NERIS
Maryland College
Leighton Street
Woburn
Milton Keynes MK17 9JD
UK

Conferences

45th FID Conference and Congress Havana, Cuba, September 18–22 1990

Objectives and theme of the Congress

'Information, a Resource for Development' is the main theme of the 45th FID Conference and Congress. This theme covers the concept of information for development in its broadest meaning from the points of view of the developed and developing countries. The approaches of both will be of great importance for the main objective of the Congress, which is to facilitate the exchange of experiences among experts from countries with different development levels. Of particular interest to the developed countries is the concept of an information industry emerging as a result of the growing integrated use of telecommunications, computing and data processing technologies; the developing countries, on the other hand, will be especially keen on learning more about new technologies, particularly the use of microcomputers, local networks, optical disks, etc.

Specialists interested in presenting papers should base their work on the following topics:

The role of information in socio-economic decision making: information in industry, agriculture, public health and biomedicine.

The information industry in today's world: information as part of the process for economic, scientific and technical integration.

Information and library services in various fields of science, technology and industry.

New information technologies: the transfer of technology and cooperation among countries with different development levels.

National, regional and international information policies.

Call for papers

Authors are requested to submit a summary of one or two pages including title, author(s) name(s), affiliation, language of the paper (Spanish or English or both) before November 15, 1989. Authors will be notified of acceptance before January 15, 1990. The deadline for submitting complete papers is May 30, 1990.

Complete papers must not exceed 8 pages, including bibliography and illustrations. Those exceeding 8 pages are requested to include a synthesis of 8 pages for inclusion in the Proceedings.

To be sure of receiving your paper in due time, you are kindly asked to mail it 45 days prior to the deadline. All correspondence related to the 45th FID Conference and Congress should be directed to:

Comité Organizador FID'90
IDICT
Apartado Postal 2019 Cod. 10200
La Habana
Cuba

Tel: + 53 7 311404/311448/312309

Telex: 511203 Idict Cu

511609 Palco Cu

511613 Iert Cu

Congress centre:

Tel: + 53 7 225511/202588

Fax: + 53 7 228382