

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 2 PJ
Scotland
UK

General

International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID)

FID has published the following statement of policy on education and training:

Professionalization and adjustment of information professionals to new, innovative and modern ways of looking at the access, management and processing of information are among the major concerns of FID.

Increased cooperation and coordination in the area of education and training, at the national, regional and international levels between the professional associations and teaching institutions is of strategic importance to the advancement of the information professions. Cooperation will be important on the many different levels of education from basic training in library and records management techniques to sophisticated and integrated Information Resources Management using the technological possibilities.

For further information, please contact:

Mr Ben G. Goedegebuure
Executive Director
International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID)
PO Box 90402
2509 LK The Hague
Netherlands

Tel: + 31 70 3140671
Fax: + 31 70 3140667
Telex: 34402 KB GV NL Attn. FID

Student awards

As a professional organisation, UKOLUG (UK Online User Group) feels that a part of its responsibility to the profession lies in support, encouragement and professional development. Therefore, UKOLUG has decided to offer two awards to students on first professional courses and either currently at, or recently at, a UK School or Department of Librarianship/Information Studies, or currently on, or having just completed a similar information-oriented course at any other UK higher education institution.

The chief award – for a short paper of interest to UKOLUG (that is on online or CD-ROM use, development, searching, etc) – attracts a £ 500 prize as well as the opportunity to present the paper at UKOLUG's prestigious State-of-the-Art Conference and have it published in the subsequent proceedings. Two runners up will receive full delegates places at the Conference.

The second award – the UKOLUG Online Awarded – will offer exhibition attendance at and help with travel to the International Online Meeting in London in December in return for a short piece of work which demonstrates the potential importance of the Online Meeting to the student in question.

A third award to help with ongoing research will be announced shortly. Details of these will appear in the press later in the year.

Further details from:

UKOLUG Awards Sub-Committee
c/o The Institute of Information Scientists
44–45 Museum Street
London WC1A 1LY
UK

Faxon to send single articles

FAXON is to introduce a range of services which send individual articles to those who cannot afford to subscribe to journals.

It claims that its methods will address the legitimate concerns of publishers more effectively than do traditional photocopying-based ones. In fact journal subscriptions will be stimulated, it says.

Details of these 'just-in-time' services will not be released until the autumn, but Faxon hints that they will involve its electronic network, linking over 30 000 publishers to more than 60 000 libraries worldwide.

A wholly-owned subsidiary, Faxon Research Services Inc., has been formed to provide these and other document delivery and current awareness services, especially in the STM fields.

Courses

Library Science: Philippines

The Institute of Library Science, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines offers a Bachelor of Library Science (B.L.S.) – a four-year degree program requiring 132 units of course work, and a Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) – a two year degree program requiring 36 units of course work and a thesis or special paper.

The Institute of Library Science, established in 1961, prepares librarians for many levels of positions in various types of libraries. Computers and their application to information processing and handling have enriched the curricula since the late 1970s. Scholarships, grants, loans, and assistant ships are available. Summer courses and workshops are offered.

For further information contact the Institute of Library Science, University of the Philippines Diliman, Gonzales Hall, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City, Philippines.

Teaching aids

Teaching kit for classification

A visual-aid kit for instructors and workshop leaders who teach the use of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) is now available from OCLC Forest Press.

Dewey: Making It Work for You contains framed transparencies (paper masters that can be copied or converted to transparencies are also available) that provide a step-by-step visual guide to finding the correct DDC classification number; problem and answer work sheets for students; a teacher's guide; supplemental materials; and a license to copy for instructional purposes.

A teaching kit has been prepared for each of the new editions: Unabridged DDC 20 and Abridged DDC 12. A kit is also available for the completely revised 780 Music class.

The concept of *Dewey: Making It Work for You* was developed by Patricia G. Oyler, Professor of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, and a veteran workshop leader. Dr. Oyler has drawn heavily on her experiences in the classroom and at various workshops across the country. Problems and answers used in the kits were prepared by the Dewey editors at the Library of Congress.

To obtain information on prices and a brochure describing the kits, write to OCLC Forest Press, 85 Watervliet Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12206, USA.

Online retrieval

Dialog

Dialog Information Services, Inc. has introduced an educational program in conjunction with New York University. Students learn the basics of computerized information retrieval using Classmate, the Dialog classroom instruction program providing access to more than 100 online databases. At the end of the class, each student is given a password for one hour of free use paid for by the university. (*Library Hotline* 20(19): 3; 1991 May 13.)

Free training on ESA-IRS

There is no doubt about the advantages a user of an online retrieval system has after being given the opportunity to attend a seminar, and having participated in follow-up courses, and having had the time to read all the documentation, either file-related or general language-oriented. ESA-IRS is convinced it is not only of benefit for the user to feel secure in a particular file or the retrieval commands in width and depth. Training therefore has played a major role for a considerable time in the user support activities of ESA-IRS. To support also educational activities performed by external institutions, such as universities and vocational training institutions, ESA-IRS has been offering its well-received Trainee Programme to *Those organisations carrying out bona fide training in the use of online retrieval systems.*

It has been possible, since 1988, to sign up at a very low subscription fee for, not only access to our nine training files, but also to some 40 full 'living' files.

From 1991 on we offer this Trainee Programme contract *Free-of-charge to those organisations carrying out bona fide training in the use of online retrieval systems.* The service can be used for all 42 files listed in an annex, in conjunction with formal supervised programmes of education on information retrieval. Only minor restrictions, such as no offline prints can be ordered from the subject databases, will affect the usage of the ESA-IRS online files and services when compared with the services to 'normal' password holders.

Believing that this offer of a Trainee Programme pays in the future by eliminating any possible obstacles to information retrieval now, ESA-IRS encourages all appropriate organisations to apply for this contract: contact your National Centre or ESA-IRS.

ESRIN

Via Galileo Galilei
00044 Frascati (Rome) Italy
Tel. (+ 39 6) 941801
Help Desk tel. (+ 39 6) 94180300
TLX: 610637 esrin i
Fax group 3 (39/6) 94180361

Training for Micro-ISIS

DSE is planning to hold programs for training staff in the use of Mini-micro CDS-ISIS software in 1991 and 1992. There will be courses for users of the system and for the training-of-trainers in both anglophone and francophone countries of Africa. Institutions which already possess both the software and computer hardware for Micro-ISIS should contact Mr. Lutz Hüttemann of DSE, specifying the need for training. Address: Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung, Education, Science and Documentation Center, Postfach 3000380, D-5300 Bonn 3, Germany

Publications

Small libraries and information units

The teaching and learning modules of a training course entitled "Improving Effectiveness of Small Libraries and Information Units," have been published under the auspices of the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) and the University of Botswana's Department of Library and Information Studies. The course, taught annually from 1988 to 1990, was aimed at the managers of small to medium sized information centers in the Eastern and Southern African Region. Reviewers suggest this publication could be utilized for self-study, or as an accompaniment to formal training. It is available from DSE's Publication Section, at Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE), Education, Science and Documentation Center, Postfach 3000380, D-5300 Bonn 3, Germany.

Database of databases

Information Automation Limited has signed a contract with publisher, Bowker-Saur to produce a master database which will include details of every database distributed worldwide in any form other than on paper-online, CD-ROM, optical, magnetic tapes and diskettes, fax, wire, or databroadcast. The records will include full details of each database as provided by the producers, including a very full description and such information as indexing policies, the index unit (cover-to-cover, articles only, etc), thesaurus used, scope, coverage, language of records, and domain. Secondary records will detail the database image as held on each host or medium so that it will be possible to compare the coverage in years, the cost, or the up-to-dateness, for instance.

When the master database is complete, a series of print products will be produced; the first, *World Databases in Medicine*, is scheduled to appear in late 1992.

"This is a major contract," said IAL Managing Director Chris Armstrong, "it involves a very substantial amount of work to document the 4,500 plus online data-

bases and over 2,000 CD-ROM products as well as the many diskette-based and other products which are now appearing, but we are confident that the series will be a success because of the amount of detail which will be supplied for each database. For the first time users will have – in a single volume – full details on every database in their subject area.”

Contacts: Geraldine Turpie, Publisher, Bowker-Saur Ltd, 60 Grosvenor Street,
London W1X 9DA, UK
Telephone: 071-493 5841

Software

RefWriter

Information Automation Limited is to market and support JSA's RefWriter software package for reformatting bibliographic data.

RefWriter is a particularly powerful and easy-to-use piece of software which can easily be configured to reformat un-edited, downloaded data. User-defined templates control the conversion to produce structured text in virtually any form, and once a template has been developed it can be used every time online data is downloaded to produce a consistent style. For example, the same file of downloaded records could be used to produce a bibliography ready for publication in an in-house style, create a file suitable for importing directly into a local text-retrieval software, or create a list of references in the form of a complete document in response to a customer enquiry.

RefWriter has comprehensive facilities for extracting or excluding data elements, and output may be enhanced by user-defined text, automatic reference numbering and user-supplied field labels. Items may be viewed during conversion to sift out those not required.

A unique utility can be used to analyse the tagged fields in a downloaded file as an aid to setting up the template. This eliminates a manual task which can prove a considerable chore where large files are concerned.

Contact IAL for a free evaluation copy.

Chris Armstrong, Managing Director, Information Automation Ltd, Penbryn,
Bronant, Aberystwyth, SY23 4TJ, UK
Telephone: 097-421 302