

News

General

Escola Universitaria J. Rubió i Balaguer

The new address of the library school is:

Escola Universitària “Jordi Rubió i Balaguer” de Biblioteconomia i Documentació

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Assistant Director: Ms. Constança Espelt

Head of Studies: Ms. Rosa Seguí

Secretary: Ms. Concepció Camps

Award

Prof. Emilia Currás from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid has been honoured with the Prof. Kaula Gold Medal and citation from Prof. Kaula Endowment for Library and Information Science in India. She is the first Spanish scientist to be awarded this Gold Medal.

European Library/Information Educators form a new Association

Twenty-six heads of departments from fourteen countries met in Stuttgart on the 5th and 6th of October and agreed to set up a new association, to be called EUCLID: the European Association for Library and Information Education and Research.

Membership of EUCLID is open to tertiary level educational institutions which offer courses in librarianship, information science and/or information management

in any country which has membership of the Council of Europe. It was felt that adoption of the Council of Europe criterion would avoid difficulties in defining "Europe" either geographically or geo-politically. The Board of EUCLID will be considering the possibility of "Affiliate" membership for institutions not entitled to full membership.

EUCLID will be managed by a Board, made up of representatives from different areas of Europe. The first Board is composed of Dr. Gèza Fülöp, Department of Library Science, Eötvös University, Budapest; Ole Harbo, Rector of the Royal School of Librarianship, Copenhagen (Chairman); Professor Mercè Bosch Pou, Escola Universitaria de Biblioteconomia i Documentació, Barcelona; Professor Peter Vodosek, Fachhochschule für Bibliothekswesen, Stuttgart; and Professor Tom Wilson, Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield. The Board will have its first meeting in Budapest in April 1992 and the first general Conference will be held in 1993.

The meeting began with a presentation by Professor Tom Wilson on the need for a European Association, in which he identified three main sets of functions: encouraging collaboration in the European programmes or by other bilateral or multilateral arrangements through the general conference, invitations of EUCLID members to national and regional meetings, and by other communication means; information and data gathering to provide a more detailed source of information than that offered by the various directories of organizations in the field; and information dissemination by means of a newsletter. The newsletter might be transmitted electronically over the COSINE (Cooperation for Open Systems Interconnection Networking in Europe) network.

The focus of discussion, on the second day of the meeting was on academic and other links under the various programmes of the European Commission, particularly ERASMUS, COMETT, and TEMPUS. Presentations on experience in using ERASMUS and TEMPUS were given by Professor John Feather of Loughborough University and by Mr. Ian Johnston of Robert Gordon's Institute, Aberdeen and there was much informal discussion on establishing links. These discussions alone clearly confirmed the need for an Association like EUCLID to provide a focus for the exchange of experience and the building of links. Other presentations were given on: the educational networks of the Nordic countries, by Rector Tor Henriksen, School of Library and Information Science, Oslo; the AIESI network of the Francophone countries, by Professor Y. Estermann, Institut d'Etudes Sociales, Geneva; and the national research support system of Germany (DAAD), by Professor Peter Vodosek.

Institutions wishing to become members of EUCLID are invited to write to Ole Harbo, Rector, Royal School of Librarianship, 6 Birketinget, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark, or to approach any member of the Board.

Courses

University College of Wales, Aberystwyth

BSc in Information Management, Accounting and Finance. The BSc in Information Management Accounting & Finance accepted its first students in October 1991. There is a growing need for graduates with the skills and knowledge to meet the requirements of the information industry. This course is intended to produce graduates for a particularly significant and growing sector of this industry. This requires a full understanding of the business context, and expertise in the development and management of information systems in financial institutions of varying sizes from small practices to major conglomerates and consultancies. This joint honours degree is offered by the Department of Information & Library Studies in conjunction with the Department of Accounting.

Single Honours BA in Information and Library Studies. From October 1991 the department is offering a single honours degree in Information and Library Studies. This is in response to the demand from applicants who are firm in their choice of prospective career in information or library work and who seek a University degree course which fully equips them with the skills and education to meet the challenges faced by today's information professionals. The course includes a study of management, information systems, information sources and services, organisational studies, human communications and choices from a variety of optional topics. Students are expected to undertake a period of supervised fieldwork or avail themselves of the opportunity to spend a year in industry. A dissertation on a subject of the student's choice is carried out in the final year.

For further information contact:

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Monash University, Australia

Music Librarianship. A new course in music librarianship is being offered by the Graduate Department of Librarianship, Archives and Records at Monash University, Australia. Entitled "Issues in Music Librarianship," the course will identify and evaluate particular issues and problems in music librarianship, and will cover such

topics as Australian music publishing, copyright, bibliographic control, preservation problems, reference services, and others. It is taught during the second semester, from July–October, in 12 weekly seminars.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Ross Harvey
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The Institute for Computational Sciences & Informatics

Analyzing large databases. The Institute for Computational Sciences and Informatics will offer a doctoral program in the Fall of 1992 to train scientists in analyzing large data bases for information useful in research. (*The Chronicle of Higher Education* 38(2): A33; 1991 September 4.)

Research

Study contract LIBACT5/UNIMARC-EC between the Commission of the European Communities (DG XIII/B) and Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main

The contract arose from suggestions made at the EC workshop on national bibliographic services, Luxembourg February 1990, that, in the interests of standardization, UNIMARC should be adopted as a common exchange format for national bibliographic agencies of Member States. The contractor was required to 'establish the feasibility of using UNIMARC amongst EC national libraries, bibliographic utilities and the booktrade, based on their present computer facilities'. The contract is a preparatory study for the CEC's Libraries Action Plan.

Anthony G. Curwen, Hon. Lecturer, was commissioned to make an initial study to determine (a) existing computer facilities, (b) existing exchange formats, and (c) the strengths and weaknesses of UNIMARC and difficulties which might have to be addressed if it were to be adopted for European (and wider) international use. The investigation was carried out by questionnaires sent to (a) EC national libraries and some others, e.g., Trinity College Dublin (17 out of 20 returned: 85% response), (b) bibliographic utilities (79%) and (c) booktrade organisations (32%); visits to selected libraries and utilities in The Hague, Copenhagen, Göttingen, Frankfurt, Florence, Rome, Lisbon and Paris; and literature search and correspondence.

In parallel, Drs Trudi Noordermeer, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, was making a feasibility study into the establishment of a database of bibliographic

records in UNIMARC format from a variety of sources.

Results indicate widespread support for UNIMARC as a standard European bibliographic data exchange format. Records in UNIMARC format are already provided by Bibliotheque Nationale (Paris), Deutsche Bibliothek and the Italian National Bibliography; the Portuguese are using UNIMARC as their national format and the Greek National Library has a CEC contract to implement UNIMARC similarly. (Outside the EC, the Library of Congress makes its records available in UNIMARC, and it is the national format in Yugoslavia.)

Several international bibliographic projects using CD-ROM (e.g., National bibliographies project) are adopting UNIMARC as their standard, which will promote use of the format. It is also possible that a European standard for booktrade data interchange might use UNIMARC in part, or at least interface to it.

The survey revealed a number of areas where the format needed to be amended or clarified, and a Permanent UNIMARC Committee has been established c/o IFLA UBCIM Programme Office at Deutsche Bibliothek.

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British research disc planned

A CD-ROM version of *Current Research in Britain* (CRIB) is underway, following an agreement last month between the British Library and Longman.

The BL is handing over compilation, publishing and marketing of the database, which details research projects in the UK's universities, polytechnics and colleges, to Longman.

Work on an optical version begins immediately, and should be complete this autumn, says the electronic publishing subsidiary, Longman Cartermill. Longer term, there is said to be the possibility of an international database, since CRIB-type data is collected in most countries.

Compilation of CRIB will be combined with that of BEST, Longman Cartermill's database of the research and expertise of the UK's universities and polytechnics.

BEST, which is already available both online and on CD-ROM, is said to be used by over 150 companies to build and maintain their university contacts. CRIB has around 1000 regular hard-copy subscribers, as well as online users via PFDS.

The agreement between the British Library and Longman is initially for three years, after which it may be renewed.

Online searching

New from ESA-IRS: Menu searching with no connect-time charges

ESA-IRS is pleased to announce EASY-QUEST: a new and easy to use menu-driven interface allowing online searching on ESA-IRS without any prior knowledge of a command language.

ESA-IRS does not charge for connect time. User organisations and companies no longer have to be afraid that the searcher will waste both time and money trying to enter search commands online.

Give your company a leading edge and take the initiative to persuade professionals in your organisation to go online themselves. Giving them direct access to the information they need allows them to interact directly with the information and to keep themselves more up-to-date. Not only is it convenient, it is also time-saving. Phone your nearest ESA-IRS national centre today and ask for a group of passwords and copies of the new EASYQUEST quick card.

CD-ROM

Charging policy

The H.W. Wilson Co. changed its policies regarding networking and remote access of its CD-ROM databases. No network or remote access fees will be assessed for academic and school libraries on a single campus or school basis. For public libraries, no access or remote access fees will be assessed for branches of a single public library system. (*Online Libraries and Microcomputers* 9(10): 5; 1991 October.)

Software

Self-study

The Special Libraries Association (USA) is offering courses either as a printed workbook or as a floppy disk or both. In each format, the program text, a series of exercises, a bibliography for further study and an evaluation form are included. About computer specifications, please contact the address below.

Examples of courses are: (1) "Winning Marketing Techniques, an Introduction to

Marketing for Information Professionals” by Sharon Dean. Available as a workbook, \$ 65, – for SLA nonmembers. (2) “Database Design: An Introductory Guide to Planning and Creating a Database” by Anne Conway Fernald. Available as a workbook, \$ 75, – for SLA nonmembers.

More information from:

SLA

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Expert system: Infomapper®

Infomapper® is an expert system designed to assist executives and managers in identifying and characterizing all the information resources of their organizations: everything, from manual, paper-based files and processes (including books, journals, correspondence, maps, blueprints, etc.) through audio, video and micrographics, to the latest electronic and optical media-based information products and services.

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Infomapper® Release 1.2 can be purchased for US \$ 595, –. The price includes an extensive User Manual. A Project Manager’s Guide to help plan and manage information inventory and analysis projects is available at US \$ 39.95. An Instructor’s Guide, ideal for use in the training and classroom settings, can be purchased for US \$ 29.95. All products are sold bundled together at a special discount price of US \$ 644.90.

For more information:

Information Management Press Inc.

P.O. Box 19166

Washington DC 20036, USA

Publications

Software: Manual

Recently, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Canada designed a new manual on how to develop and implement a bibliographic information system using CDS/ISIS. The manual sells for CAN \$ 18.00. IDRC, P.O. Box 8500, Ottawa, Canada K1G 3H9. As an example of international cooperation, the interface for version 2.3 was developed by the Asian Institute of Technology (G.P.O. Box 2754, 10501 Bangkok, Thailand (*Information Trends – News Magazine*, vol. 4, no. 2, June 1991, pp. 71–82).

Recruitment of Information Professionals

A crucial aspect of the national information infrastructure is the building of the workforce. The role of library and information studies schools in this process has been addressed by Diana Rosenberg, Dean of the Faculty of Information Science at Moi University, Kenya. The author identifies a shortage of “academically well-qualified applicants” for the BSc (Information Sciences), problems in the university’s admission process, and useful career information that should be distributed to potential applicants. The appropriate time for “inculcating the ideals of the professions” is at the very beginning of the recruitment effort. This policy recommendation was based on a survey of incoming students during 1990/91 admissions to detect the factors that had influenced them to select information sciences for study (Diana Rosenberg “Recruitment into the Information Professions in Kenya” *Information Trends – News Magazine* (published by Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung, DSE), vol. 4, no. 2, June 1991, pp. 91–99).

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