

## News

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### 1. Conferences

#### *1.1. Information technology in libraries*

1999 Information Resources Management Association International Conference

May 16–19, 1999  
Hershey, PA

Developments in information technology have had a major impact on all types of libraries over the past two decades. The challenges for libraries that arise from the advent of the computer and the proliferation of cheaper, faster, more efficient means of accessing and processing data are particularly wide-ranging. Public, academic, and special libraries are faced with dilemmas as tightly focused as whether to opt for online or CD-Rom technology to complex ethical questions about the public's right to know. This IRMA track seeks to expand knowledge in this rapidly evolving area.

Topics include

- Electronic resources sharing
- Digital libraries
- Virtual libraries
- Access vs. possession of information
- The role of the librarian in a digital age
- Technology for special libraries
- Electronic publishing
- Security issues for libraries on the Internet
- Full-text document and citation searches
- Natural language processing
- The right to know – Public access to information

Submission Categories include full length submissions of previously unpublished, conceptual or empirical research manuscripts; research-in-progress submissions; and panel, workshop, tutorial, and symposium submissions.

Submission Guidelines can be found at: <<http://www.irma-international.org>>

Dates:

Deadline for receipt of Papers/Proposals:	October 12, 1998
Notification of acceptance/rejection:	November 29, 1998
Deadline for receipt of final papers:	January 18, 1999
Early registration ends:	April 3, 1999

All inquiries about this track are to be made to: Patricia Diamond Fletcher, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Information Systems, The University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250, USA. Tel.: +1 410 455 3154; Fax: +1 410 455 1073; URL: <http://research.umbc.edu/~fletcher>

All submissions are to be sent to: Mehdi Khrosrowpour, Program Chair, 1999 IRMA International Conference, 1331 E. Chocolate Avenue, Hershey, PA 17033-1117, USA. Tel.: +1 717 533 8879; Fax: +1 717 533 8661; Email: [mehdi@irma-international.org](mailto:mehdi@irma-international.org)

For Conference Registration and Hotel Registration forms, contact IRMA at +1 717 533 8879 or visit the web site at <http://www.irma-international.org>

## 2. Library Schools

### 2.1. School of Information and Media, Robert Gordon University

The School of Information and Media at The Robert Gordon University is moving from its existing three building over the next few days. In the newly constructed Faculty of Management building, on the Garthdee campus to which the whole University is relocating over the next few years, the whole School will be under one roof for the first time since 1993 when its expanding student and staff numbers outgrew the space available in its original premises.

Please note our new address: School of Information and Media, The Robert Gordon University, Garthdee Road, Aberdeen AB10 7QE, UK.

New telephone number for the School office: +44 1224 263900; New fax number: +44 1224 263939.

All staff are being allocated new telephone numbers. Those with numbers already on the main University switchboard (26....) will, initially, generally redirect their calls automatically to their new numbers.

Email addresses will remain the same, but servers are being changed and we are moving to Novell 4 shortly, which also necessitates a change in internal addressing. Please check your records and automatic mailers to delete server names such as MERKLAND, SIM1, SIM2 from e.g. [@merkland.rgu.ac.uk](mailto:@merkland.rgu.ac.uk), [@sim1.rgu.ac.uk](mailto:@sim1.rgu.ac.uk), [@sim2.rgu.ac.uk](mailto:@sim2.rgu.ac.uk). In future please use simply (name) [@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:@rgu.ac.uk).

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national +44 1224 262969; Email (Internet): [i.m.johnson@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:i.m.johnson@rgu.ac.uk); URL – <http://www.rgu.ac.uk/schools/sim/sim.htm>.

## *2.2. School of Library and Information Science, Kent State University*

### *School of Library and Information Science to Build Statewide Network*

Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science is the center of a \$339,381 effort to build a statewide library and information science education and training network. The OhioLEARN (Ohio Libraries Education, Access and Resource network) Infrastructure Project will be funded by \$252,689 from the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and \$86,692 from a coalition of Ohio educational institutions.

The OhioLEARN partnership includes Kent State University, OhioLINK, Bowling Green State University, Ohio University and the University of Cincinnati. The OhioLEARN Infrastructure Project will create an electronic distributed learning network using digital videoconferencing technology. The network will be used to provide workshops and courses, including Kent's Master of Library Science degree, which is the only professional library and information science program in Ohio. The Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN) and INFOhio, the information network for Ohio schools will join the project as content providers.

The project will begin in October, and the first workshops and courses will be delivered during late spring and summer 1999.

LSTA funding is administered by the State Library of Ohio. The grant to Kent was the third largest of 18 grants awarded to Ohio libraries in the first year of LSTA funding, and the only grant to support higher education. Only 31 percent of proposed LSTA projects were funded.

The complete OhioLEARN Infrastructure Project proposal can be viewed at <http://wallace.slis.kent.edu/lstapro2.htm>

## *2.3. School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University*

### *2.3.1. Accreditation Renewed*

September 1998. The School of Library and Information Studies, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University is very pleased to announce that the Committee on Accreditation of the American Library Association voted to approve continuation of the accreditation of the Master of Library and Information Studies degree programme at Dalhousie. The ALA accreditation is recognized North America wide. This decision came after an intensive review of the programme, which included an on-site visit by a panel of Canadian and American experts. In renewing the accreditation for a full seven years, the accrediting body noted that Dalhousie was to be acknowledged for "developing a high quality, personalized program that is characterized by strong collegiality among the faculty and student body."

The Dalhousie programme has maintained continuous accreditation since 1973,

and offers the MLIS and MLIS/LLB degree options. Students with a variety of educational backgrounds come from around the world to study in the School. The School works cooperatively with other units in the Faculty of Management in delivering its educational programme.

The Dalhousie Master of Library and Information Studies degree is noted for preparing graduates for a wide variety of employment positions in the information industry. Recent graduates have obtained positions in database and software development companies, archives, records management offices, hospitals, libraries of many types, and some have established their own information consulting businesses.

Contact: Bertrum H. MacDonald, Director, School of Library and Information Studies, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 3J5. Tel.: +1 902 494 3656; Fax: +1 902 494 2451; E-mail: bertrum.macdonald@dal.ca; Web: <http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slisl/>.

#### *2.4. School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia*

##### *2.4.1. Master of Arts in Children's Literature*

The University of British Columbia, with the participation of the departments of English, Language Education, Theatre, Film and Creative Writing, and the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies offers a multi-disciplinary Master of Arts program in Children's Literature.

The program provides specialized education for graduate students in the study of children's literature using a multi-disciplinary approach. The program is designed to provide each student with the opportunity to study the creative writing and publishing of this literature, examine models of sharing its rich heritage with the young, and also facilitate the literary, social, historic, and psychological analyses of children's literature as literature.

This multi-disciplinary approach will expose students to many schools of literary criticism, educational theory, and professional and creative practice. It will acquaint students with the broad literary canon of children's literature across a spectrum of languages and cultures and with a variety of critical perspectives and professional application.

The Master of Arts in Children's Literature is awarded on the completion of 30 credits of work, including 24 credits of course work and a six-credit thesis. The degree may be taken on a full-time or part-time basis. Students may begin the program in either term of Winter Session (September or January) or Summer Session (May or July). The application deadlines are:

- May 1<sup>st</sup> for September admission,
- September 1<sup>st</sup> for January admission,
- January 1<sup>st</sup> for May or July admission.

For more information about the program or to request application materials, please

contact: The Admissions Secretary, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia, #831–1956 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Tel.: +1 (604) 822-2404; Fax: +1 (604) 822-6006; E-mail: slais.admissions@ubc.ca.

#### *2.4.2. Joint Master of Archival Studies, Master of Library and Information Studies Degree Program*

The University of British Columbia School of Library, Archival and Information Studies announces a Joint Degree Program designed to allow students to earn both the Master of Archival Studies and the Master of Library and Information Studies degrees within a reasonable period of time (generally between three and five years). The two degrees, taken simultaneously, are awarded on the completion of 81 credits of work approved by the School plus required non-credit studies such as a practicum. The practicum provides direct professional experience in a library or other information-based organization. In addition, some field experience (through a credit-bearing internship) in an archival repository is highly desirable for a student with limited prior contact with the work of the practising archivist. A student with research interest may elect to write a thesis in one of the two fields.

Students in the Joint Degree Program are required to complete the core and other required courses for both the MAS and MLIS, plus a number of cross-listed and elective courses to a total of 81 credits.

Admission requirements for the Joint Degree Program include:

- a four-year bachelor's degree (or its equivalent) in a discipline acceptable to the SLAIS Admissions Committee,
- with a minimum overall average in the B+ range (76% at UBC) in third- and fourth-year level courses, and
- letter of reference and a written statement that indicate the applicant shows promise of superior professional performance.

For more information about the Joint Degree Program or to request application materials, please contact: The Admissions Secretary, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia, #831–1956 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Tel.: +1 (604) 822-2404; Fax: +1 (604) 822-6006; E-mail: slais.admissions@ubc.ca.

### **3. Grants**

#### *3.1. New National Leadership Grants: Advancing the Field of Library Science*

Washington, DC – The Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services announced today 41 grants totaling \$6,487,750 for its first ever National Leadership Grant awards. These pioneering awards will support nationally replicable library projects

that address education, research, preservation and library-museum partnerships.

Diane Frankel, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, noted, "Libraries and museums are more important than ever in this age of information, helping Americans navigate the many information resources and find meaning in an increasingly complex world. We are proud of these forward-thinking National Leadership projects that will increase access to information and help libraries and museums better serve the public."

The competition, which was open to all types of libraries, garnered more than 250 applications. The four categories of competition were: 1) Education and training in library and information science 2) Research and demonstration projects to increase access to resources 3) Preservation or digitization of library materials and 4) Model programs of cooperation between libraries and museums to improve community service.

The funding will support initiatives that can serve as national models, including:

- the development of courses for librarians on new technologies
- the production of a handbook for library and museum professionals on managing digital projects
- projects to help public libraries evaluate and improve Internet services
- a project in cooperation with four Chinese research libraries to deliver Chinese-language academic journals via the Internet
- projects to digitize library and archival resources and make them available via the Internet and World Wide Web
- cooperative projects among libraries and museums to share resources and provide public programs drawing on the strengths of each type of institution
- an artist residency program for public library branches, developed collaboratively by a museum of art and a public library.

(See attached list for grant descriptions and amounts or call press contacts for list.)

Created by the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996, IMLS is an independent Federal grantmaking agency that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries. For more information, including grant guidelines, contact: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20506, (202) 606-8536, or <http://www.imls.fed.us/>.

### *3.1.1. 1998 National Leadership Grant Awards*

Education and Training. Model programs to provide education and training for the use of emerging technologies in the field of library and information science and to attract individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds to the field.

Florida State University, Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center, Tallahassee, Florida. \$240,782 for a two-year project to develop a marketing research continuing education course for librarians to prepare them to use new technologies to effectively market library services.

Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science, River Forest, Illinois. \$165,622 for a two-year project, in collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools' Department of Libraries and Information Services, to prepare a selected group of classroom teachers for endorsement as elementary school library media specialists.

Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. \$43,502 for a one-year project to develop an archival training course to be offered through interactive compressed video to librarians in Arkansas and Louisiana.

University of Maryland College of Library and Information Services, College Park, Maryland. \$94,400 for a two-year project to recruit individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds to the master's degree program in library science, focusing on part-time students and on the provision of mentoring as well as financial assistance to students.

University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies, Norman, Oklahoma. \$151,416 for a two-year project to support master's degree students in the Library and Information Science Education Project to Enhance Cultural Diversity, focusing on recruitment of minority students, training in information technologies, and mentoring by peers and faculty.

The University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science, Denton, Texas. \$226,791 for a two-year project, in partnership with the African American Museum in Dallas, to train library professionals in digital imaging technologies and information networks leading to Certificates of Advanced Study in digital image management.

Research and Demonstration. Model projects to enhance library services through the use of appropriate technologies and to create methods to evaluate the contributions to a community made by institutions providing access to information services.

Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$17,335 for a one-year project, in partnership with the Society of American Archivists and others, to convene a meeting to finalize a formal set of Application Guidelines for Encoded Archival Description, a tool to expand access to archival materials by making finding aids effectively accessible via the Internet and the World Wide Web.

University of Michigan School of Information, Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$189,026 for a two-year project to investigate the role of librarians in assisting users to find community information on the Internet, using case studies of libraries in Florida, Illinois, and Pennsylvania, and to identify best practices for providing community information electronically.

St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, Missouri. \$208,550 for a two-year project, in partnership with public libraries in Baltimore, Birmingham, Phoenix, and Seattle, to refine a case-study methodology to communicate the economic benefits of services

provided by large public libraries and to provide a means for libraries to estimate the direct monetary return on annual taxpayer investment.

New York Public Library, New York, New York. \$225,000 for a one-year project to improve electronic access to the library's rare book, arts, and Judaica collections.

University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, New York. \$176,138 for a one-year project to develop and test a descriptive list of national core data elements, statistics, and performance measures to describe public library network uses and produce a manual describing the resulting elements, statistics and measures and recommending data collection techniques.

Duke University Library, Durham, North Carolina. \$91,188 for a one-year project to demonstrate the use of Encoded Archival Description for finding aids in conjunction with large-scale digital imaging projects, using as a case study the collection of photographs, journals and notebooks of documentary photographer William Gedney.

Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon. \$100,000 for a two-year project to convert a program about Portland neighborhoods from a stand-alone interactive video exhibit to an interactive Web-based database, and to promote its use by K-12 educators and students for researching local history.

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. \$189,215 for a two-year project, in cooperation with four Chinese research libraries, to deliver digital copies of articles from Chinese-language academic journals via the Internet to researchers throughout the United States, with the goal of making the service viable as a cost-recovery operation.

Washington State Library, Olympia, Washington. \$114,040 for a one-year project to demonstrate the effectiveness of a Government Information Locator Service tool developed by the Washington State Library to connect people with government, in partnership with the states of Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Oregon.

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. \$172,611 for a one-year project to digitize field research materials from the university's African studies program and to make the information accessible for teaching and research purposes via a Web-based public domain database.

Preservation or Digitization. Projects to preserve unique library resources of national significance, emphasizing access by researchers beyond the institution undertaking the project, and projects that address the preservation and archiving of digital media.

University of Hawaii at Manoa Library, Honolulu, Hawaii. \$100,438 for a two-year project to develop a digital library of Hawaiian and Pacific Islands materials, using Hawaiian-language newspapers and historical photographs, for use as a teaching tool for Hawaiian-language immersion schools and other purposes.

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. \$108,682 for a two-year project to digi-

tize a large collection of League of Nations publications published between 1919 and 1939 and make the materials available via the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Alliance Library System, Pekin, Illinois. \$101,400 for a one-year project to create a regional digital library of archival resources relating to the history of Illinois from 1818 to 1918, in collaboration with the Illinois State Historical Library and other libraries within the state.

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. \$166,000 for a two-year project to digitize materials in various formats from the Hoagy Carmichael jazz collection (including sound recordings, photographs, and printed and textual materials) and make them available via the Internet and World Wide Web.

Northeast Document Conservation Center, Andover, Massachusetts. \$82,300 for a two-year project to produce and disseminate an easy-to-use handbook on managing digital projects to meet the needs of libraries and museums.

Nah Tah Wahsh Library, Hannahville Indian Community, Wilson, Michigan. \$38,549 for a two-year project to provide information about the Hannahville Indian Community, the Potawatomi tribe, and the Woodland Indians of Upper Michigan – including digital copies of documents, photographs, and video and audio clips of interviews with tribal elders – via the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Missouri Botanical Garden Library, St. Louis, Missouri. \$225,281 for a two-year project to develop a database of plant images and associated data from the Missouri Botanical Garden's library and make it available on the institution's Web site; create a repository for plant images to which other botanical organizations can contribute; and develop a model program with software for connecting images of any type with associated data.

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. \$200,000 for a two-year project to plan and implement an archiving solution for more than 2.5 million digital images created by Cornell in its pioneering imaging projects carried out over the last decade

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York. \$30,725 in supplemental funding for a two-year project to investigate the effects of fluctuating environments on library and archival materials.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. \$138,938 for a two-year project to create a full-text database, "The Southern Homefront, 1861–1865," consisting of an extensive collection of digitized and encoded printed works and manuscripts, maps, illustrations and other materials documenting southern life during the Civil War, and make them available via the Internet and the World Wide Web.

College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. \$175,000 for a two-year project to conserve rare materials in the College's historical library.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia. \$241,306 for a two-year project to digitize, identify, arrange, describe, and conserve a collection of photographs of African-American educational scenes taken by photographer Jackson Davis in the southern United States between 1915 and 1930.

West Virginia State Archives, Charleston, West Virginia. \$101,578 for a one-year project to digitize and create catalog records for a manuscript collection containing the largest known assemblage of records relating to the abolitionist John Brown and make the materials available via the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Model Programs of Cooperation. Projects that develop, document and disseminate both the processes and products of model programs of cooperation between libraries and museums, with emphasis on how the community is served, technology is used, or education is enhanced.

Arizona Department of Library, Archives and Public Records, Phoenix, Arizona. \$150,545 for a one-year pilot project, in partnership with the Heard Museum and the state libraries of Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah, to increase library, archive and museum expertise in tribal communities and to improve access and services among tribal and other participating institutions.

Florida Center for Library Automation, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. \$235,803 for a two-year project to create a virtual library of Florida ecological information, in partnership with the Florida Museum of Natural History and the libraries of the University of Florida, Florida International University, and Florida Atlantic University.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois. \$157,981 for a two-year project in partnership with three museums, two libraries, and three elementary schools to build a model and a test electronic database of historical information to be made available via the Internet and World Wide Web.

IUPUI (Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis) University Libraries. Indianapolis, Indiana. \$290,000 for a two-year project, in partnership with the Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO), to provide access on a trial basis to AMICO's digital image database for the K-12 educational and public library communities in the greater Indianapolis area.

Montana State University Libraries, Bozeman, Montana. \$138,346 for a one-year project to create a database, Images of the Indian Peoples of the Northern Great Plains, which will make access to important source material on the Plains Indian cultures accessible via the Internet and World Wide Web.

Kit Carson Historic Museums, Taos, New Mexico. \$103,833 for a two-year project in partnership with the Zimmerman Library and Harwood Museum of the University of New Mexico and the Millicent Rogers Museum of Northern New Mexico, to establish the Southwestern Research Center of Northern New Mexico to make information about valuable collections available to national and international researchers.

Brooklyn Children's Museum, Brooklyn, New York. \$297,900 for a two-year project, in partnership with the Brooklyn Museum of Art and the Brooklyn Public Library, to expand a cooperative project to increase educational services to the Brooklyn community and to develop a national model for attracting and training people from diverse backgrounds in information technology, library science, and museum programs.

Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, North Carolina. \$309,484 for a two-year project in partnership with the Mint Museum of Art to create a program entitled "Weaving a Tale of Craft," uniting computer technology, the arts, humanities, and educational resources so the public may learn about North Carolina history and crafts.

Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island. \$325,513 for a two-year partnership with the Providence Public Library for an initiative designed to expand audiences for contemporary art and interest in current issues through artists' residencies in library branches, an exhibition at RISD, and a traveling Art & Text Mobile.

The Children's Museum of Houston, Houston, Texas. \$194,000 for a two-year project, in partnership with the Houston Public Library System, to open a Library for Early Childhood at the Children's Museum as a resource for information on early childhood, parenting and family learning, and as a partner learning space of the "Tot Spot" exhibit gallery dedicated to children 6 months to three years.

Council on Library and Information Resources, Washington, D.C. \$72,990 for a one-year project, in partnership with the Chicago Historical Society, to host a conference on content development in the digital environment for museums, libraries, and archives.

Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, Wisconsin. \$95,542 for a two-year project in partnership with the Marathon County Public Library to link original art and literacy by focusing on extraordinary exhibitions of children's book illustrations. The exhibition, *Down Under and Over Here: Children's Book Illustration from Australia and America*, will showcase a model program of cooperation.

#### **4. Publications**

##### *4.1. Journal for Global Information Management*

Special Issue on Libraries and the Internet: An International Agenda.

Patricia Diamond Fletcher, ed.

We are soliciting research papers for a special issue of the *Journal for Global Information Management*. The goal of this special issue is to provide an international picture of the issues to and the responses by libraries to providing services and informa-

tion on the Internet and the World Wide Web. Public, academic, school, business, and other special libraries will be the subject of the discourse. Current research on effectiveness of library networks and on the potential directions for libraries in a networked environment will be presented to share library best practices, policy, and services. Cross-cultural library issues are solicited.

Topics can include:

- Development of Internet services in libraries
- Special populations for Internet services
- Budgeting, accounting, and funding Internet services
- Policy issues
- Training and staffing issues
- Global libraries
- Collection development and dissemination
- Providing for the information "have-nots"
- International copyright
- Transborder data flow

Important Deadlines:

January 10, 1999	submissions from authors due to editor
March 31	papers due back to editor from reviewers
April 15	papers returned to authors for final editing
June 1	papers due to publisher for Fall issue inclusion

Guidelines for submission can be found at the JGIM website: <http://www.idea-group.com/jgim.htm>

Direct all inquiries and submissions to: Patricia Diamond Fletcher, Ph.D., Department of Information Systems, 1000 Hilltop Circle, The University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, USA 21250, Tel.: +1 410-455-3154; Fax: +1 410-455-1073; <[fletcher@umbc.edu](mailto:fletcher@umbc.edu)>.