



LIBRARY THEORY AND RESEARCH SECTION (LTR) NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2014

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Anna Maria Tammaro

Dear colleagues,

IFLA Trends Report and IFLA Key initiatives evidence that we are living in a challenging period and that research on theoretical aspects of library science and libraries is more needed than before! Library Theory and Research (LTR) Section wants to contribute effectively to IFLA and the library community focusing on theory and research with the organisation of Conferences and projects and networking about the methodology of research.

Conferences:

I hope that most of you will participate to LTR Open Session in Lyon "Libraries in the political process: benefits and risks of political visibility" on 21 August 2014. The Program Planning Committee includes Raphaëlle Bats, Peter Lor and Milan Vasiljevic. They have received 24 proposals from which 6 were selected: the quality of the selected papers is very good and we hope to do a publication.

Do not forget to participate to the Satellite in Turin (Italy) on 13-14 August, soon before the WLIC in Lyon, with the title "Theory and research on the convergence of professional identity in cultural heritage

institutions (Libraries, Museums, and Archives) beyond technology". The SC members Anna Maria Tammaro, Jennefer Weil Arns, Krystyna Matusiak, Patricia Montiel-Overall formed the Program Planning Committee, together with AIB, ALISE and EUCLID delegates. They have received 22 papers and 10 were selected.

Networking:

Heidi Kristin Olsen submitted the idea of a LinkedIn Group for Library Theory and Research. The idea was discussed and accepted with enthusiasm during the second Standing Committee meeting in Singapore.

LTR Section with this Group aims to promote the importance of investigation and research activities within the library and information science community worldwide. We would like that the members subscribing to the LinkedIn Group will be more than IFLA member and we hope that the importance of research in LIS can be better promoted and disseminated using this network.

Thank you so much to all SC members for the excellent team working and shared responsibilities in realising all the LTR activities, projects and publications.

# AGENDA

## Proposed Agenda for LTR Standing Committee Meeting

Saturday, August 16th 2014, 12:30 – 15:00, Room Gratte Ciel 3, and Wednesday, August 20h 2014 11:30 - 13:00, Bellecour 1.

### 1. Introduction and welcome

- Introduction of Officers, Standing Committee members, and observers. Anna Maria Tammaro Chair
- Approval of the Agenda for August, 2014 LTR Standing Committee (SC) meetings.
- Approval of the Minutes from Singapore 2013.

Draft [http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/library-theory-and-research/minutes/ltr\\_minutes\\_2013.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/library-theory-and-research/minutes/ltr_minutes_2013.pdf)

### 2. Officer reports

- Report from the Chair:
- Report from the Secretary and Treasurer,
- Report from the Information Officer and Webmaster on LTR Newsletter, Website, and related matters
- Report from Division IV Chair

### 3. Conference Program Planning

- 1 2014 Program Planning Committee for Lyon (Raphaëlle Bats and Peter Lor, Co-Chairs)  
*Session 200 — Libraries in the political process: benefits and risks of political visibility — Library Theory and Research 21 August 2014 08:30 - 10:30 | Room: Auditorium Lumière | SI*
- 2 2014 Satellite Turin (Anna Maria Tammaro with Terry Weech, Pat Overall, Jennifer Weil Arms; Suzie Allard, (ALISE), Serap and Tatjana Aparac (EUCLID)  
*Theory and research on the convergence of professional identity in cultural heritage institutions (Libraries, Museums, and Archives) beyond technology 13-14 August Torino GAM - Galleria d'arte moderna, Corso Galileo Ferraris 30 - Via Magenta, 31*
- 3 2015 Program Planning Committee Cape Town (to be decided in Lyon).

### 4. Projects and publications

- 4 Report on Professional Norms Project (Patrice Landry with Terry Weech, Steve Witt, Peter Lor, Anna Maria Tammaro)
- 5 Report on the Project of LTR in Linked In (Heidi Kristen Olsen)
- 6 New project Proposals

### 5. LTR Strategic Plan

- 7 Revision of LTR Strategic Plan for 2013-2015 (Krystyna )  
English: [http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/library-theory-and-research/strategic-plan/ltr\\_2013-2015.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/library-theory-and-research/strategic-plan/ltr_2013-2015.pdf)  
French: <http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/library-theory-and-research/strategic-plan/ltr-2013-2015-fr.pdf>  
**IFLA HQ is requesting to relate Section Strategies to the Key Initiatives More information can be found here:** <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/strategic-plans-for-2012>

### 6. Special Interest Group - Report on Library History SIG (Steve Witt)

### 7. Other Business

## CONFERENCES and MEETINGS 2014

- **13rd-14<sup>th</sup> of August 2014:** Conference satellite in Turin, Italy. Theory and research on the convergence of professional identity in cultural heritage institutions (Libraries, Museums, and Archives) beyond technology
- **16<sup>th</sup> of August 2014 from 12:30 to 3:00 pm:** standing committee meeting
- **16<sup>th</sup> of August 2014 from 13:45 to 15:45 pm:** Open Session of History of Libraries SIG: Building a Global Network: International librarianship at the Confluence of Cultures, Practices, and Standards
- **21<sup>st</sup> of August 2014 from 8:30 am to 12:45:** Open session in the Auditorium Lumière in Lyon, France. Libraries in the political process: benefits and risks of political visibility
- **25<sup>st</sup>-26<sup>st</sup> of August 2014:** Conference satellite in Lyon (Enssib) : History of Libraries SIG, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section and Centre Gabriel Naudé (enssib): history of librarianship.

# CONFERENCES 2014

## SATELLITE CONFERENCE 2014, 13 & 14 AUGUST

Anna Maria Tamaro

With the Satellite in Turin, LTR Section starts to focus on Cultural Heritage (CH) and the issue of convergence between Libraries, Archives and Museums beyond technology.

Professionals in the CH sector are challenged by the impact of digitalization, with some theoretical concepts which needs to be discussed, including the need for research on identity and education. The focus on CH was a stimulus to renovate the relationships with other organizations outside IFLA with similar concerns on their agendas – in particular ALISE, EUCLID and the AIB Italian Library Association. The Italian Library Association has started a Federation of Professional Associations, called MAB (Museums, Archives, and Libraries) which will guest the Satellite in Turin and this is the only one Satellite of IFLA WLIC 2014 in Italy.

The collaboration with AIB, ALISE and EUCLID will culminate with the final Round Table of the Satellite discussing about education challenges. The theme of CH will continue to be discussed in WLIC 2015 in the Satellite planned in Cape Town "Digital preservation as a site of contestation: national heritage, memory, politics and power -- beyond technology and management".

Find the programme :  
<http://www.ifla.org/node/8664>

## OPEN SESSION 2014, 21 AUGUST

### Libraries in the political process: benefits and risks of political visibility

The open session of the LTR's section will be held the 21st of August of 2014 from 8:30 am to 12:45 in the Auditorium Lumière. You can find below the abstracts of each communication which will be presented this summer. Full papers will be soon available.

Abstract 1: The effects of Political and Social Turmoil on LIS Research in the Middle East and North Africa – Amanda B. Click, Josiah Mark Drewry and Mahmoud Khalifa

Much of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) has experienced significant political upheaval over the past few years, and government, academic and public libraries across the region are involved in responding to and documenting these changes. Many have already been affected at a basic operational level. They may be scrambling for funding, or have been physically marred by conflict, or even looted or destroyed. The current circumstances have affected not only physical spaces, but the LIS field as a whole – in a not so tangible way.

Our presentation will examine how the political and social turmoil in the region has been reflected in recent library and information science (LIS) literature. The main focus of our presentation will be the conclusions we have drawn from our own content analysis of journal articles and other scholarly works authored by LIS scholars and librarians across MENA in both English and Arabic from 2010 to 2014. We also draw upon global English-language LIS literature to see

to what extent scholars outside of MENA are discussing the difficulties faced by libraries in the region.

We seek to address the following questions: How have libraries in MENA seen the needs of their patrons evolve in unexpected ways, and what have they done to document the changes surrounding them? Have librarians and researchers across the region collaborated in novel ways to preserve their cultural heritage? What kinds of empirical research is being conducted by LIS professionals across the region, and how much of it is related to the causes and effects of the (ongoing) Arab Spring?

We expect that our research will enable us to address some other questions, not just about what is being studied, but how and by whom, including: Do LIS professors and other practitioners across MENA study similar issues? Do they collaborate with each other? How connected are these researchers to other practitioners across their region and the world?

Abstract 2: Government policies and public libraries in the Republic of Turkey – Prof. Dr. Hasan S. Keseroğlu

Public libraries are one of the most fundamental institutions of culture, education and information policies of the countries. They are usually founded and managed by the state.

States are governed by governments. The authority of governments to govern, manage the state and take decisions in this direction is determined by laws. Nevertheless, the state possess units and functions that do not change with changing governments. When governments go beyond the boundaries of constitution they are eloded by law and legislation. Nowadays, at the point where national laws are inadequate, international decision-making bodies such as the European Court of Human Rights are available. However, in countries where culture of democracy is not yet embraced, governments behave and act like a state and the concepts of state and government are confused.

The Republic of Turkey is founded in 1923, on the legacy of a 600-years old Ottoman Empire. In the otoman period the function/role of public library was fulfilled by foundation libraries and the first public library is found in the republic period.. Although in the 90-years Republic of Turkey public libraries are build and managed by governments, legally they can be founded and managed by local governments, private and corporate bodies as well.

This study aims to state the place and role of public libraries in the government policies, and determine the relationship between them in the context of Turkish Republic (1923-2013). the study is based on the hypothesis that "in societies where democracy culture is not embraced, public library fails to exist and function in real terms" and its scope is limited with government programs, Five-Year Development Plans, related laws, regulations and reports, government decisions and statistics of the Turkish Republic. At the same time it describes related literature and observations from practices in Turkey.

It can be said that public libraries in Turkey have really carried out their functions only between 1932-1950 when Public houses used to function. Interruption in the democracy functioning caused by military coups in the Republic of Turkey, reflects in public libraries as well. Even though recently we can observe a recovery of the situation, unclear government decisions and practices causes ambiguities in the functioning of libraries. At this point, it is necessary and urgent to discuss the conceptual and concrete relationship between the library, politics and democracy in Turkey.

### Abstract 3: South Africa's LIS Transformation Charter: policies, politics and professionals – Genevieve Hart and Mary Nassimbeni

It is 20 years since the advent of democracy in South Africa and the political angles in the Library Theory and Research Section's call for papers offer an opportunity to examine the rather confusing fortunes of libraries in our young democracy. Since 2008 public libraries have received enormous injections of funds from government in apparent recognition of their developmental role; yet libraries are hardly mentioned in the major government blueprint, the National Development Plan. We have a new

progressive learner-centred school curriculum; yet, despite years of advocacy from the LIS profession, we have had no accompanying action to build a school library system to meet the curriculum's thirst for resources.

Both presenters are involved in the writing of the LIS Transformation Charter which, after a process of two phases over six years, is now due to be handed over to the National Council for LIS, the legislated government advisory body. The question

underlying the proposed paper comes from their work on the Charter: How could our LIS be more representative of a transformed South Africa? The question is made urgent by the recent destruction of some 15 public libraries in so-called service delivery protests. The government grants, mentioned above, are aimed at more than building new libraries; the aim is rather to build new models of service. In keeping with this goal, the Transformation Charter offers a vision of a transformed and integrated library system that has meaning to all sectors of South African society.

The paper will report on the two phases of the Charter by exploring the political factors that underlie the hiatus of

three years, 2010-2013, when it lay dormant, and also the pressures from civic society that arguably led to the shifts in thinking that are evident in its second final phase. It will reflect on the difficulties associated with crafting a Charter for a number of audiences with consequent potential of conflict in expectations, and different rhetorical requirements. The Charter has a political destination –ultimately, endorsement by Cabinet - but it needs to speak persuasively also to a community of professionals, and to citizens. The paper will examine the mixed responses of the LIS profession as the Charter progressed and will conclude with some thoughts on how to make the Charter's recommendations a reality.

#### Abstract 4: Neoliberalism, Democracy and the Library as a Radically Inclusive Space – Tim Huzar

This paper explores the relationship between the public library and democracy. It argues that the idea of the public library is a fruitful place to start in figuring resistance (and developing radical alternatives) to what political theorist Wendy Brown has described as the political rationality of neoliberalism (2003).

The paper demonstrates that the link between the public library and democracy has traditionally been understood as instrumental: on this reading, libraries serve an educative function for democracy (typified in Michael Gorman's *Our Enduring Values* (2000)). However, the paper argues that this understanding is not only theoretically questionable but politically limiting. Following the thought of the philosopher Jacques Rancière (1999) the

paper explores the democratic impropriety of the public library, arguing that libraries should be understood as improper spaces because of the assumption of equality that the library makes of its patrons.

In this way the paper poses some critical questions to institutional attempts at making libraries more inclusive: it is argued that there is a danger of losing the library's assumption of equality when institutions specifically target the socially excluded for inclusion. Drawing on the research of Aabø and Audunson (2012), the paper theorises that often it is the lack of specific targeting of the socially excluded that makes the library a radically inclusive space. Finally, it is argued that it is precisely this radical inclusivity that can help in figuring what an alternative to neoliberalism might be.

## Abstract 5: Putting crises behind us: a new opportunity for libraries – Joseph Belletante

Libraries are burnt down or praised for the same reason: common culture. A culture which can be seen either as institutional and exclusive (French riots in 2005) or as a symbol of diversity and democracy (Newcastle, Northern Ireland and Friern Barnet Library in England, in 2013).

This duality is at the core of libraries' identity and is exacerbated by today's economic, technological and political context.

While the dawn of the digital culture is pressing libraries for a «multimediation» which can lead to an independent vision and practice, crises provides an historic political opportunity for the cultural world and especially for Libraries.

It also calls in fact for an ambitious response beyond those discussed in answer to the future of libraries as «great good places» (Oldenburg, 1989) and pertaining to

the competition with Internet or smartphones, branding, management, private sponsorship, cultural programming.

Such a response could consist in supporting local individuals in a more global and pro-active fashion. It means using our social experience already collected (in job search, training, creative thinking, arts) to help putting the crises behind us and build coordinate actions in a way to give users more social and cultural integration, including a strong feeling of collective usefulness.

Libraries can be stepping stones towards a more contributive society (based on Wikipedia role model), leaving more room for individual responsibility. Everyone, from firms to artists, from academics to social workers, has a crucial role to play in this community effort. Librarians could stand on its front line.

## LIBRARY HISTORY SIG, OPEN SESSION, 17 AUGUST

Library History Special Interest Group  
Steve Witt

The Library History SIG welcomes you to join its activities in Lyon this August. During the IFLA conference the SIG will host a session titled Building a Global Network: International librarianship at the Confluence of Cultures, Practices, and Standards 17 August 2014 from 13:45 - 15:45 in Auditorium Pasteur. The session will be translated in French and English. The following papers will be presented:

Building resilient public library services with Carnegie in South Africa (1927 – 2012): regularities, singularities and South African exceptionalism - MARY NASSIMBENI (Library and Information Studies Centre, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa)

Universal Decimal Classification as a standard for international intellectual

cooperation: the global network's project of Paul Otlet and the International Institute of Bibliography (IIB) at the beginnings of the 20th century - LAURENCE FAVIER, WIDAD MUSTAFA EL HADI (Institution: Université Charles-de-Gaulle (Lille 3), Département SID (UFR DECCID), Laboratoire GERICO, Ascq, France) and STEPHANIE MANFROID (Mundaneum Centre des

archives de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles & Espace d'expositions Temporaires, Mons, Belgium)

Informal professional networks: a technical story - CLAUDIA SERBANUTA (Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Urbana, United States) and RALUCA NUTIU (Mures County Library, Mures, Romania)

International librarianship in Europe (1990-2000) - GIUSEPPE VITIELLO (Library and Knowledge Centre at the NATO Defense College, Rome, Italy)

Mr. Hutchings Goes to Washington: British Librarians in the United States, 1876-1951- ALISTAIR BLACK (Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, United States)

A matter of influence: International librarianship and its impact in Australia in the early twentieth century - MARY CARROLL (School of Information Studies, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia) and SUE REYNOLDS (School of Business, IT and Logistics, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia)

## LIBRARY HISTORY SIG, 25-26 AUGUST

History of Librarianship post-Satellite Conference  
Steve Witt

The History SIG invites you to linger in Lyon for a post conference Satellite session on the History of Librarianship from the 25th – 26th of August at the Université de Lyon-École nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques (Enssib), Lyon-Villeurbanne, France. The conference is organized by Organized by IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, IFLA Library History Special Interest Group, and Centre Gabriel Naudé (Enssib).

The aim of the conference is to provide a comparative history of librarianship. It will seek to highlight not only the history of practices and motivations driving the profession but to also reflect theoretically on the divergent views among librarians in their role of gatekeepers to knowledge on the one hand and serving specific audiences to facilitate access on the other.

The conference will focus on the following topics:

- The development of library education
- Professional publications
- Theoretical reflections
- The actions and activities of groups and organizations
- Organizational and institutional development
- Discord and continuities that reflect difference between the expectations of librarians and their public
- The role of IFLA and national and international associations
- Internationalization of librarianship

Registration is free and must be done online at the congress website (<http://histlibr2014.sciencesconf.org/>)

# PROJECTS:

## IMPACT STUDY OF IFLA STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Anna Maria Tamaro

Before Singapore WLIC 2013, Patrice Landry, Chair of the IFLA Standards Committee has submitted a proposal of collaboration to LTR for a project about "Impact of IFLA Standards". During a first meeting in Singapore, the proposal has been welcomed by LTR SC members with Anna Maria Tamaro, Terry Weech, Peter Lor and Steve Witt volunteering to collaborate in writing the project,

The project is focused on the LTR strategy and can be considered a follow-up to the Library Theory Research Section "Study of the impact of IFLA on promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries" published on 2006 (compiled and edited, June 2013 by Heidi Kristin Olsen and Terry L. Weech)

### Aims and objectives

There is the need to know how IFLA standards and guidelines are used and what impact they have on the international library community. More specifically: What is the appreciation librarians from North and South countries have of IFLA?

I think that this Project can really stimulate an important conversation in IFLA and want to thank Patrice Landry to have initiated it!

The IFLA Committee on Standards will use the findings to expand its support to professional units. It is expected that the findings will provide information of how IFLA standards are used, perceived and applied. This will help IFLA professional units in their development of existing and new standards by having a better understanding of users expectations and needs.

### Methodology

The project duration is 2 years and the methodology includes:

- 1) Realize a "Feasibility study" about evaluation and analysis of the impact of IFLA standards,
- 2) Conducting survey, pilot studies and data analysis,
- 3) Evaluation and final report.

The result of the study as well as other specific studies will be presented in a pre-satellite meeting in 2015. The outcome will be a publication of the studies with recommendations to the IFLA PC and Committee on Standards.

## SATELLITE CONFERENCE 2015, CAPE TOWN

Peter Lor

We recently learned that IFLA's Professional Committee has approved a proposal from the Section of Library Theory and Research to hold a pre-congress satellite meeting in Cape Town in August 2015.

The theme of the meeting is "Digital preservation as a site of contestation:

national heritage, memory, politics and power – beyond technology and management". It will address interesting issues of ownership and control of a country's heritage, memory and traditional/indigenous knowledge in a digital environment. Related to these are questions

about what we mean, for example, by the metaphors of "national memory" and "nation building" in postcolonial situations, and what the roles of libraries and archives can be in such a context.

The Satellite meeting is planned for 12 and 13 August 2015. It will be held in two venues. On the first day we will meet on the campus of the University of the Western Cape (UWC), in the outskirts of Cape Town. This is an appropriate venue as UWC hosts the Mayibuye Archive, which is part of the Robben Island Museum. On the second day we will take the ferry from Cape Town to Robben Island itself, where the rest of the programme will take place, along with a guided tour of the prison compound where liberation struggle leader and South Africa's

first democratically elected president, Nelson Mandela, was incarcerated.

This should be a memorable event, which we hope will be of interest to IFLA members and other interested persons concerned with digital preservation of documentary heritage, including librarians responsible for digitization and digital collections management, archivists, museum curators; also historians and other academics. Members of First Nations communities concerned with the preservation of their traditional/indigenous knowledge and ethical management thereof are also among the potential audience.

Watch out for the Satellite Meeting announcement in the run-up to the 2015 IFLA World Library and Information Congress!

# COMMUNICATION

## LTR GROUP ON LINKEDIN

Heidi Kristin Olsen.

The group is open for all professionals who are interested in discussing issues regarding theory and research in library and information science. The aim of the group is to connect and encourage discussions among all professionals engaged in various aspects of the discipline. The section promotes the importance of investigation and research activities within IFLA's programme, upholds scientific integrity in research and development activities, supports the design and investigation of research projects and the reporting and publication of research results within the library and information science community worldwide. The group is based in the IFLA Section on Library Theory and Research. The group can be found in LinkedIn by searching for "Library Theory and Research" - we are welcoming all professionals who are interested!

### **FIND THE Library Theory and Research LINKEDIN GROUP HERE**

[http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Library-Theory-Research-6666121?home=&qid=6666121&trk=anet\\_ug\\_hm&goback=%2Egna\\_6666121](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Library-Theory-Research-6666121?home=&qid=6666121&trk=anet_ug_hm&goback=%2Egna_6666121)

## DIIGO OR THE INFORMATION MONITORING OF THE IFLA SECTION LIBRARY THEORY AND RESEARCH

Mathilde Dumaine et Alexandra Goubin, member of the IFLA team

One of the IFLA LTR's missions is to do regular information monitoring that we share and spread through our twitter account and our blog. We use a tool called 'Diigo'. What is this tool and how can you use it? Let's see how this tool aims to a collaborative work. Diigo is a multi-tool for knowledge management. "It is a collaborative tool that can do many things such as:

- Read more effectively with annotation tools
- Build a personal library
- Organize information as little or as much as you want
- Better collaboration for any group, large or small
- Share information"

Diigo has a double goal: it can help sharing information among people (the monitoring information) and spread it. Diigo is a bookmark tool that can gather resources from the Internet. Members of our IFLA LTR group from enssib use this tool under the leading of Raphaëlle Bats, information coordinator. We aim to do regular and professional information monitoring. The results from this information monitoring can be useful for:

- Researchers in Library and Information sciences, book history or library history: they can have proper information about future publications, congresses or meeting.
- Librarians who are interested in research
- Members for the IFLA LTR section
- A larger audience who is interested in IFLA's activities, libraries's projects or any kind or research around LIS.

Members of the IFLA LTR team are divided into 3 different groups, in order to share the work.

They are looking for information in 3 different topics.

- History of libraries : Library History
- Library and information sciences : Library and Information Sciences
- Book History : Book History

those information are classified into different categories, as follow:

- CALLS: calls with a deadline, call for papers, posters, grants, awards, publications and so on.
- CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS: we give dates of the different events that deal with LIS.
- RESOURCES / PUBLICATIONS: we spread new resources of any kind of publication (journals, monographs...) or digital data (digitalization of collections, studies results...)
- GRANT / AWARDS: results of calls or call to get prizes.

### **FIND THE Library Theory and Research DIIGO GROUP HERE**

<https://groups.diigo.com/user/ifla-ltr>

Members of the IFLA LTR team know many languages. Resources can be found in English, French, German, Spanish, Italian and so on. It is possible to subscribe to the RSS feed for each topic. Each members of the group feeds the diigo account of the LTR section and publish an article on the blog each month. This article gathers all the information that have been founded.

Do not hesitate to help us by participating. You just need to send a mail to: [section.IFLA.LTR@gmail.com](mailto:section.IFLA.LTR@gmail.com) or by sending us a tweet @IFLA\_LTR.

# FOCUS ON LTR' COMMUNICATION TEAM

Our team is composed of ensib students involved in the IFLA LTR workshop. This workshop was created in 2011 by Raphaëlle Bats, information coordinator for the LTR section. This is the third consecutive year that students have the opportunity to discover how an organization such as the IFLA works.

As part of the workshop, we meet once a month to have a review on the LTR news and to work on our respective tasks. We're all dealing with the information monitoring on LIS, Libraries history and books history in order to supply our diigo accounts. We spread our monitoring via twitter (@IFLA\_LTR) and this blog. Our monitoring is primarily for researchers or librarians-researchers in the fields mentioned above, to inform them on the latest resources, upcoming conferences, call for papers, etc ...

Here are the pictures of almost each team member. Some of us will be at the IFLA 2014 Congress in Lyon this summer. If you plan to be part of the event, don't hesitate to come by and say hello.



1st raw : Mathilde Dumaine, Amadeus Foulon, Alexandra Goubin, Sarah Perreau, Giovanna Montano : Master Politique des bibliothèques et de la documentation (PBD), ensib.

2<sup>nd</sup> raw : Alexia Scherer, Master PBD, Zoé Thivet, Master PANIST – SIBIST, Pauline Tremblay, Master PBD, Alexandre Tur, head librarian trainee , Raphaëlle Bats, International Relations Officer, Ensib.

## FOLLOW US

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<http://www.ifla.org/news/83>

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<http://blogs.ifla.org/library-th-research/>

# AROUND THE WORLD

Invitation to attend General Assembly and conferences in Japan, 2014-2015

Nihon Toshokan Joouhou Gakkai  
(Japan Society of Library and  
Information Science (JSLIS))

General Assembly and conference will be held between Nov. 29 ~ 30, 2014, at Baika Women's College, Osaka. Paper presentation call does not open yet, but either Japanese or English will be accepted.

Address; c/o shisho-katei office, Meiji University, 1—1 Kanda Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8301 Japan office@jslis.jp

Established; 1953

Officers; President/ Prof. Mituhiro Oda

Membership; members—individual 709, institutional 49; membership fee ¥5,000

URL;

[http://www.jslis.jp/aboutjslis\\_1\\_en.html](http://www.jslis.jp/aboutjslis_1_en.html)

Nihon Toshokan Kyokai (Japan  
Library Association(JLA))

General Assembly (All-Japan Library Conference) will be held from Oct.31 to Nov.1 2014 at Meiji University Suruga-dai campus, Tokyo. This year's conference will be the 100th meeting.

Address; 1-11-14, Sinkawa, Chuou-ku, Tokyo 104-0033 Japan somu@jla.or.jp

Established; 1892

Officers; Chair/Ms. Akane Mori, Secretary General/Mr. Yoshimi Kimura

URL;

<http://www.jla.or.jp/portals/0/html/jla-e.html#jla>

Nihon Toshokan Kenkyukai  
(Nippon Association for  
Librarianship(NAL))

Every first week of February or March annual research conference has been held in Kansai area, Kyoto or Osaka, Kobe. Paper presentation call does not open yet.

Address; 3-8-5-104 Toyosaki, Kita-ku, Osaka, 531-0072 Japan nittoken@ray.ocn.ne.jp

Established; 1946

Officers; President/ Prof. Yoshitaka Kawasaki

Membership; members—individual 810, institutional 430; membership fee US\$80

URL; <http://nal-lib.jp/index-e.html>

Nihon Toshokan Bunkasi  
Kenkyukai (Japan Association of  
Library and Information History  
(JALIH))

Every September General Assembly and conference will held. (language ; Japanese) The 1st 2014 research meeting will be held at Waseda University on July 12th(sat.) 2014.

Major Fields of Interest; Research on Library and Information History

Address; c/o Taro Miura, office@jalih.jp

Established;

Officers; Chair/ Prof. Mitsuhiro Oda,

URL; <http://jalih.jp/>

# READINGS / PUBLICATIONS

## BOOKREVIEWS

Submitted by Giovanna Montano.

### Contro il colonialismo digitale : istruzioni per continuare a leggere

Casati, Roberto : Bari : Laterza ; 2013. VI, 130 pp., 21 cm. ISBN 978-88-581-0731-7

Since its introduction in May 2013, this book has caused a profound debate especially among blogs focused on school education and literature in Italy. The structure of the work is challenging and enjoyable, especially aimed at who is engaged with new media and their uses as learning tools. At the same time reading also affects librarians invited to a conversation that is difficult to escape, with the presence of small pills of provocation.

The author, Roberto Casati, is a philosopher and director of research at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and Nicod Institut and Nicod Institute in Paris offers his central thesis from a metaphor, that of "colonialism": the image of conquest and exploitation is very effective at odds supporters of digital seeking to progressively colonize all activities of human life. The idea followed throughout the pages is to demonstrate that an ideological position may be dangerous and that a very careful analysis of each case is necessary.

Casati built his book around thirty two simple and contemporary issues such as, for example, "reading is better on paper or tablet? "; "Technology really helps learning? "Or" how to protect the info obesity? ". This book is the field where digital myths fall with the simple dispute that the iPad (and similar) are not the book of the future and its introduction in all schools is not justified.

The challenge of new technologies should be to seek ways to use outside school, a protected space in which the zapping is excluded. The book's protects attention but digital colonialism shows the possibility of multitasking. The problem is basic: the human brain is made to focus on one activity at a time when multitasking is actually a continuous movement between different activities.

The next critical hits the modern concept of "nativi digitali" for which the new generation has a natural familiarity with digital instruments that brings to digital skills and a new intelligence that follows different logicals structures. This claim in favor of an anthropological mutation is widely disputed and proven by a number of scientific studies. Made in this book is always well documented and its reading is far from being like "apocalyptic" (differently from the first approach); beyond a first part nostalgic with rich descriptions of houses and rooms full of books and childhood memories, strong argument is how to imagine a positive future for knowledge technologies. The Casati's debate invites not to undergo digital, but to become an actor who selects the best instruments, those really useful for communication. We must choose wisely between paths that capture the attention and others who protect it.

The newsletter will be translated into French, very soon. If you want us to propose the newsletter in your language, don't hesitate to send us the texts translated.

See you this summer in Lyon, for IFLA WLIC 2014

