NEWS

Courses and seminars

CEPIA courses on demand

In addition to its schedule of special courses in the information field, the Centre D'Etudes Pratiques d'Informatique et Automatique (CEPIA) offers courses to be taught on demand in locations outside France. The courses are designed to develop competence in data processing and the management of information centres. The following are currently included: introductory courses in informatics; management of information systems; databases, networking and telecommunications; management of microcomputer systems; applications in the workplace; systems analysis; and programming languages. CEPIA will also tailor courses to the specific needs of an organization. At least three months' notice is required for courses to be taught outside France. Brochures are available in French, English and Spanish.

For more details, write to:

CEPIA,
Domaine de Voluceau,
Rocquencourt,
BP 105,
78153, Le Chesnay Cedex,
France

Scientific and technical information, Spain

The Instituto de Información y Documentación en Ciencia y Tecnología (ICYT) offers many services and publications to users of scientific and technical information. In addition, ICYT offers training courses to practitioners in this field. Recently a course was given to teach users of scientific and technical information in universities, research centres and industrial settings how to use information centres more efficiently.

For information on courses to be offered in the future, contact:

Instituto de Información y Documentación
   y Tecnología
c/o Joaquin Costa,
22 Madrid-6,
Spain

Permanent courses

Archival correspondence course, Argentina

The Universidad Nacional de Córdoba has established the Centro Universitario de Educación a Distancia (UNCED) to offer educational opportunities to persons at remote locations. One of the courses begins in 1984, enabling correspondents to obtain an archives certificate. The programme is under the auspices of Aurelio Tanodi, the director of the Centro Interamericano de Desarrollo de Archivos (CIDA) and the School of Archives. While the course is primarily to meet the needs of Argentinians, any Spanish speaking individual is welcome to enroll.

Please contact:

Aurelio Tanodi,
Centro Interamericano de Desarrollo
  de Archivos,
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba,
Argentina

Certificate in Terminology, Canada

Persons who wish to master scientific and technical terminology will be interested in this unique course offered by the Université du Québec à Montréal. The Certificate in Terminology explores the foundations and mechanisms of modern terminology and familiarizes students with such new technologies as terminology databanks and reference document databanks.

For details contact:

Module de Linguistique,
Université du Québec à Montréal,
Pavillon Judith-Jasmin, J-1775,
1495, Rue Saint-Denis,
Montréal, Québec,
Canada

Scientific and technical information, France

A postgraduate diploma course for the training of scientific and technical information specialists is offered jointly by UNESCO and the Universities of Grenoble and Lyon. This ten-month course begins 1 October and continues through 15 July each year. The programme includes instruction in bibliographic description, indexing and abstracting, classification, document languages, the functions of documentation centres, user needs, organizational problems, and bibliographic and numeric databases. An excellent ability in French is imperative. The course includes workshops, lectures, educational trips and a required thesis. Applicants must have university degrees and serve as heads of information services or must be profes-

sionals with five years' experience in information work and hold positions of responsibility within an information or documentation centre. The tuition cost is 2000 F. Prospective candidates should obtain an application from:

Commission Française pour l'UNESCO,
42, Avenue Raymond Poincaré,
75116 Paris,
France

Master's degree for educators from developing countries, U.K.

Loughborough University of Technology Department of Library and Information Studies offers an M.A. in Archive/Library/Information Studies and Education. This course is intended for those who plan to teach in any of the three areas and is particularly geared for students from developing countries. The programme is divided between courses in education and advanced-level courses in archive or library or information studies. Opportunities are given to teach and participate in the Department and to visit other library schools. The programme lasts one calendar year, from October to September. Applicants must hold a degree and a qualification in librarianship and have library experience at a senior level. Teaching experience is also desired.

Inquiries should be made to:

Head of Department of Library and Information Studies,
Loughborough University of Technology,
Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU,
U.K.

Archives and records management in developing countries

The Records Management and Archives Programme (RAMP) is a long-term programme developed by the Division of the General Information Programme of UNESCO. RAMP engages in projects, studies and other activities to promote the formulation of information policies and plans for the development of archives information systems and education, particularly in developing countries. *The role of archives and records management in national information systems: a RAMP study* by James B. Rhoads for the International Council on Archives was published in 1983. While central government records form the focus of the study, the principles and methods described can also be applied to commercial and other non-government organizations. If you wish to obtain more information on RAMP studies and projects, please contact:

Division of the General Information Programme,
UNESCO,
7, Place de Fontenoy,
75700 Paris,
France

Regional training programme, Latin America

A UNDP/UNESCO/Venezuelan Government project is presently underway, working toward the development of a regional programme of postgraduate training for information science. This multifaceted programme aims to set up a framework for institutions, focusing on the training of teachers and the creation of a flexible, interdisciplinary curriculum, teaching materials, and the necessary physical facilities. Preliminary work is already underway in Caracas on this project entitled, "Regional Postgraduate Training Course on Information Science".

Details can be requested from:

. UNESCO, PGI,
7, Place de Fontenoy,
75700 Paris,
France

Librarianship education in Kenya

Libraries in Kenya have long had to rely on training their professional staff abroad. Yet, the growing need for professional librarians cannot be met adequately due to high costs and difficulty in placing enough students in foreign universities. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology is working to remedy this problem. Several new programmes are now being developed. A diploma programme is proposed for Kenya Polytech; the new university at Eldoret will have a faculty in library and information studies; and a two-year library science programme has been introduced in diploma teacher training colleges. Finally, a Master's Course in Librarianship is being considered by Kenyatta University College.

For more information write to:

J.R. Njuguna,
Kenyatta University College,
Nairobi,
Kenya

Online search simulation for biology undergraduates

A simulation of an online literature search, written in PASCAL for an Apple II microcomputer, has recently been included in library instruction seminars for final-year biology students at Coventry (Lanchester) Polytechnic.

Groups of 20 students each attend a two-hour session held in the library at the beginning of the academic year, shortly after the topic of their final-year project has been chosen. The first half of the session is used to describe available sources:

   (i) TWE tape/slide 'Finding information in biology'.

   (ii) Examples of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, handbooks, annual reviews.

(iii) Use of abstracting/indexing journals.

The second half of the session is used to give the students an opportunity to find material on their project topics, which each student beginning a literature search with printed abstracts and indexes.

This is now followed by an online search simulation, used with small groups of the students in turn, lasting 10–15 minutes. The simulation is introduced by an explanation of the hosts and databases available, and how they are accessed. The program is designed to replace a live demonstration of one particular search – in this case, searching the Biosis Previews database on DIALOG for articles on the topic 'DNA in corn'.

Some of the students were already aware of online searching services, from their year on industrial training, but none had previously seen one executed. All showed a lively interest and asked questions about response time, costs, speed of printout arrival, and particular databases. Library policy allows for online searches to be carried out for undergraduates, but this is restricted to cases of exceptional need, where a manual approach has severe limitations in subject retrieval compared with an online search.

News of similar activities in library instruction for biology (or other science subjects) would be welcomed.

Barbara Smith,
Applied Science Subject Librarian,
Coventry (Lanchester) Polytechnic,
U.K.

Automated access to public databases by unskilled users

'IT', the Information Transfer program is a totally automated searching system, designed for people with no knowledge of information systems or computers, enabling them to obtain information from public databases using ordinary English language.

Further details from:

Userlink Systems, Ltd.,
Mansion House Chambers,
High Street,
Stockport, Cheshire SK1 1EG,
U.K.
Tel.: (061) 429 8232.

Research awards

U.S. library schools receive planning grants

Council on Library Resources, Inc. has awarded grants to six library schools to plan activities to enrich their programmes for educating academic and research

librarians: Atlanta University, the University of Denver, Kent State University, the University of Oklahoma, Rutgers University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Atlanta University will use its $4000 grant to develop a programme for training science librarians for academic and research libraries. The School of Library and Information Studies will design a strategy for attracting graduates with science degrees into the master's degree programme and plans to retain consultants to plan curriculum components for the science majors.

A $5000 grant to the *University of Denver* will assist the Graduate School of Librarianship and Information Management to conduct a needs assessment for a special academic/research librarianship certificate programme. The School will survey academic and research librarians in the western U.S. to assess interest in the programme, and will determine the feasibility of offering courses at multiple locations.

The School of Library Science, *Kent State University*, plans to use the $5000 award to investigate alternatives for extending its MLS programme and for joint or cooperative programmes. Topics for attention are the expansion of continuing education, developing an interdisciplinary programme in information science, and prospects for a minor in library or information science and for a doctoral programme.

At the *University of Oklahoma*, a $5000 grant funds the School of Library Science's proposal to design an information resources management programme. The programme will be a component in the School's new joint MBA/MLS programme and its Sixth Year Certificate Programme.

Rutgers University has received $4896 to plan a programme to recruit and train students who have science backgrounds. The School of Communication, Information and Library Studies will plan a recruitment effort to attract recently graduated scientists and engineers to the training programme. Plans also will be made for a science librarianship track in the curriculum, to include strong management training and appropriate internships.

A grant for $3945 will assist the *University of Wisconsin-Madison* to design a programme to increase the ability of research librarians to undertake library-related research in cooperation with scholars from other disciplines. The Library School will develop a model for supplementary education of professionals that includes course work plus design and implementation of a specific research project by each participant.

Online Computer Library Center (OCLC)

MicroUse database at Simmons
Researchers at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College have been awarded a $3300 grant from OCLC to support development of MicroUse, a microcomputer-based database that will provide current information on microcomputer applications in libraries and information centres.

Over 400 library microcomputer applications have been entered into the database,

and the development team is actively searching for additional software applications in libraries and information centres through newsletters, journals, library micro-user groups, and direct correspondence.

Libraries having projects related to the use of micros in libraries and information centres are asked to send descriptions of these projects to:

Dr. Ching-chih Chen,
GSLIS,
Simmons College,
300, The Fenway,
Boston, MA 02115,
U.S.A.

Include the following information: hardware (system specific), software (name, developer, and type), a description of the application (including hardware and software), and information on the library in which the application was developed or is being used.

User Education Project comes to an end

The British Library Research and Development Department has announced that it is unable to continue supporting an Information Officer for User Education after the end of the present grant. The project will therefore cease on 31st January 1985. The decision has been made because funds for the foreseeable future are likely to be very restricted. The Department, however, has become increasingly aware of the need for a concentrated effort in the schools sector, and faced with a policy decision on where best to apply scarce funds over the next few years, it has been decided that the schools sector should now have the highest priority, but with a liaison officer for a limited period rather than an information officer.

Study grant for teachers

The Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant is an annual award which provides a teacher in library and information science from a developing country with the opportunity to study a specific subject in his field in one or more European countries. The grant, in the amount of Dfl. 10 000 (approximately US $3200), is made available annually by the Dutch firm of Martinus Nijhoff, and is administered through the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Candidates must not be over 40 years of age and must be employed either as teachers at a school of library and/or information science or in a position responsible for the dissemination of knowledge through lectures, writing or in-service training. An adequate command, both written and verbal, of English, French, German or Dutch is essential. Applications must be accompanied by a statement of intent and be submitted by 1 February

each year. For a descriptive brochure please contact:

> IFLA Secretariat,
> PO Box 95312,
> 2509 CH The Hague,
> The Netherlands

End-user searching

Stanford University Lane Medical Library has been involved in teaching computerized literature searching to clinicians. The purpose of the programme is to train physicians to use MEDLINE to answer questions that arise in a clinical setting and that need an immediate answer. With the aid of a grant from the Kaiser Family Foundation, five terminals were purchased and placed in Lane Library and four locations throughout the medical wards.

Three types of training sessions have evolved: a three-hour session on the basics of searching MEDLINE on DIALOG; two lectures on computer applications in medical libraries; and an 11-session course. The sessions covered how to search MEDLINE, CHEMLINE, TOXLINE, CANCERLINE, CLINPROT, CANCERPROF on the National Library of Medicine's MEDLARS system. Enrollees qualified for NLM passwords upon completion.

Work is also being done on developing an evaluation project to measure the impact of end-user searching on the delivery of medical care.

Library technology standards

The Education Committee of the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) is developing an information package about standards applicable to library and information technology. The package, available in Autumn 1984, will be useful to educators, staff development personnel and others interested in developing awareness of standards.

The committee welcomes suggestions about material and information for inclusion.

Contact:

> Jaye Bausser,
> Chair LITA Education Committee,
> Box 5034,
> Duke Station,
> Durham, NC 27706,
> U.S.A.

Latin American schools and courses

Among the many fine publications of the Universidad de Buenos Aires Instituto Bibliotecologico is *GUIA de Escuelas y Cursos de Bibliotecologia y Documentación en Americana Latina,* an extensive catalogue of schools and courses in librarianship and documentation in Latin America. Entries are listed by country and contain information on the degrees offered, the number of faculty members and graduates, the courses of study and conditions of admission. Queries about this 145 page paperbound volume should be addressed to:

Instituto Bibliotecologico,
Dirección: Azcuénaga 280,
Dirección Postal: Casilla de Correo 901,
1000 Buenos Aires,
Argentina