NEWS

Forthcoming conferences and meetings

1986 ALISE Annual Meeting

The Association for Library and Information Science Education will hold its 1986 Annual Conference on January 15–17, 1986, at the Palmer House in Chicago, Illinois. The conference theme will be "Accreditation – The Way Ahead?"

The preliminary schedule includes a continuing education workshop on January 15 on the topic "Alternatives to Accreditation: An International Perspective". The main programme includes three General Sessions: (1) "The Philosophy of Accreditation"; (2) Reports from associations which participated in the ALISE/H.W. Wilson Foundation Accreditation Conference in the fall of 1984; and (3) "Where Do We Go From Here".

In addition to plenary sessions, there will be a variety of special interest and discussion groups. For further information, contact:

> Janet Phillips, Executive Secretary,
> 471 Park Lane,
> State College, PA 16803,
> U.S.A.
> Tel.: (814) 238-0254.

Second International Conference on the Application of Microcomputers in Information, Documentation and Libraries, F.R.G.

A call for papers has been issued for the Second International Conference on the Application of Microcomputers in Information, Documentation and Libraries to be held 17–21 March 1986, in Baden-Baden. The deadline for submission of title and a brief outline is 28 February 1985. Topics to be covered at the convention are: description of existing systems; software requirements; applications in libraries and information centers; special problems; education and training for librarians, information professionals and users. For information, contact:

> Secretariat, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Dokumentation e.V. (DGD),
> Westendstrasse 19,
> D-600 Frankfurt a.M. 1,
> Federal Republic of Germany.

Research awards

Five U.S.A. schools to plan new programmes

The Council on Library Resources has awarded grants to five library schools to plan enhancements for their programmes for educating academic and research librarians. The recipients are: Louisiana State University; the State University of New York, Buffalo; the University of Alabama; the University of California, Los Angeles; and the University of Tennessee.

Louisiana State University will use the $5000 grant to recruit students from programmes in computer science to its joint master's degree programme in library and information science and computer science. The School of Library and Information Science has selected ten southern colleges and universities as the focus of the effort. The programme includes an invitational conference for computer science faculty from the institutions, development of recruitment materials, and LSU faculty visits to the ten schools.

The *State University of New York, Buffalo,* which received a $5000 grant, will study ways in which special training can be developed as preparation for academic librarianship. The School of Information and Library Studies will consider alternatives that include extension of the MLS programme, development of double master's programmes, establishment of a series of required courses, improving recruitment, and development of non-credit workshops for area academic librarians.

At the *University of Alabama,* the $3535 planning grant will enable the Graduate School of Library Service to strengthen the curriculum in library management, information studies, and research methodology. The School will develop topical curriculum modules in these areas for individual study by advanced library school students and research library practitioners.

A grant for $5000 will assist the *University of California, Los Angeles,* to develop a coordinated degree programme in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science in conjunction with the College of Fine Arts. UCLA will evaluate needs for academic fine arts librarians, review the university library's special responsibilities in this area, and define a curriculum to prepare graduates for their professional and managerial tasks.

The grant for $3221 will enable the *University of Tennessee* to explore the feasibility of an undergraduate programme in information science. The Graduate School of Library and Information Science will work to identify needs for an information science minor or major with emphasis on technical information skills, define a curriculum, and develop publicity to illustrate the purpose and benefits of the programme.

SLA grant

Miriam H. Tees, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Library Science, McGill University, has been awarded an SLA Special Programs Fund grant in order to study graduate education for special librarianship. Her specific purpose is to find out from leading members of SLA what they expect recent library school graduates

to have learned in their course work for the MLS, and what they prefer new librarians to learn on the job.

Grant for Atlanta, U.S.A.

The Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies has received a grant of approximately $250 000 from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education for a three-year bibliographic instruction programme. The project will train librarians from 17 historically black institutions in methods to introduce computerized bibliographic and information resources to faculty, students and administrators at their schools.

UNESCO and IFLA contract

A contract has been signed between UNESCO and IFLA to prepare "Guidelines for the instruction of teachers on the educational and curricular use of school libraries". To fulfil this work, IFLA, in consultation with UNESCO, will select a specialist from the IFLA Section of School Libraries to prepare the work, and IFLA will also submit to UNESCO a detailed outline for this work. The appointed specialist will prepare, in accordance with the approved detailed outline, a preliminary draft of the work with particular concern for the special needs of developing countries and the various patterns and traditions of education applying in them.

Permanent courses

Graduate School of Librarianship, Australia

The Graduate School of Librarianship at Monash University currently offers three degree programmes in the field. The Master of Arts programme awards a professional degree in librarianship. The Master of Librarianship degree is open to professional librarians seeking advanced study and research capability in librarianship and information science. The purpose of the Diploma in Librarianship is to give professionals an opportunity for specialized study in the field of computerized systems and services. Enquiries about these degree programmes should be sent to:

> Professor Jean P. White,
> Graduate School of Librarianship,
> Monash University,
> Clayton, Victoria 3168,
> Australia.

Courses for library work with the disabled

The College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, includes in its curriculum elective courses designed to prepare librarians for work

with blind, physically handicapped, institutionalized, mentally retarded, learning disabled or emotionally disabled persons. A paper by Linda Lucas in the *Journal of education for librarianship* 23 (3) (Winter 1983) describes teaching methods, student projects, site visits and other learning experiences. For more information write to:

> College of Library and Information Science,
> University of South Carolina,
> Columbia, SC 29208,
> U.S.A.

Information engineering, China

A new Master's degree programme in Information Engineering has been developed at Jilin University of Technology, Chang Chun, People's Republic of China. Some of the courses in the proposed curriculum include: information systems, data structures, methodology and management, database management, and telecommunications. The Department of Information Engineering undertakes research in the areas of information science, programme instruction, and information education. All instruction is in English. Details are available from:

> The China Source,
> Suite 621,
> 1500 Worcester Road,
> Framingham, MA 01701,
> U.S.A.

Postgraduate training programme in information studies

In order to meet the urgent need for professionally qualified information personnel especially in the use of computers in library and information handling, the Academic Resource Centre together with the Computer Centre of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, is offering, in collaboration with the Thailand National Commission for UNESCO and with support from UNESCO/PGI, a six-month national training programme in information studies. The programme, which started in mid-September 1984, has its emphasis on the application of modern technology in information storage, retrieval and dissemination. Among the members of the Planning Committee for this activity and assisting in the course modules are several professionals trained in the UNESCO/UNDP postgraduate training course for science information specialists in South-East Asia, Quezon City, Philippines.

About fifteen participants from Thai libraries and documentation centres are enrolled in this programme. In addition to obtaining a better knowledge of the basic concepts of information technology and computer applications in information handling, participants are expected to gain experience in the planning and development of modern information systems and to be able to help developing information

networks which may lead to future cooperation at the national, regional and international level. UNESCO's financial assistance comprises among other things the supply of teaching material, a microcomputer with appropriate software and honoraria for lectures.

It is expected that the course will become a regular feature of the University's programme for the training of information specialists.

Academic Library Consultant Training Programme

The Consultant Training Programme began in 1979, when the OMS received support from the Council on Library Resources and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a five-year effort to train up to 100 librarians to serve as consultants to assist library self-study and training programmes. In 1982, the General Electric Foundation began contributing support under its grant for the Public Services in Research Libraries Project.

Selection. Over the past five years, 77 consultant trainees were selected following national search processes that included written applications, individual interviews, and participation in screening workshops. Over 650 individuals applied, and nearly 285 were interviewed. An advisory committee and OMS staff made preliminary selections based on the following criteria: five years of successful library experience; demonstrated skills in dealing with colleagues; analyzing and solving problems, and making decisions; demonstrated communication skills, especially openness to new ideas; tolerance for differing viewpoints and ability to articulate ideas; and the ability to devote up to 22 days to the programme (on a released-time or personal-leave basis). The selection committee also considered the candidates' experience in library self-studies, special management training, accomplishment in an area covered by OMS studies, and potential for working within the assisted self-study approach to organizational change and development.

The final selections were made through an assessment workshop, which involved an intensive problem-solving situation and individual and group work on organizational and professional issues (see Table 1).

Training. The comprehensive two-week Consultation Skills Workshops were designed by OMS staff especially for the programme. Sessions dealt with identifying and diagnosing library problems; theory and concepts of library training and

Table 1
Selections for the Consultant Training Programme

	Applications received	Interviews	Assessment workshop	Trainees accepted
1980	250	88	40	20
1981	159	67	23	20
1982	120	70	36	15
1983	148	60	34	22

consultation; the consultation process; OMS self-study procedures and training programmes; and facilitating the work of groups engaged in problem-solving and exploration of issues. During the second week of the workshops, participants formed consulting teams to undertake projects at libraries in the Washington D.C. area.

After the workshops, many consultants began a year-long practicum in which they worked with OMS staff members to conduct library studies, complete research and publications, and assist with training programmes. Candidates were encouraged to complete a directed reading programme, design study interventions, prepare organizational assessments, and participate in related workshops, institutes, and conferences.

Results. At the outset, consultant training was intended principally to make assisted self-studies more broadly available to libraries. In practice, the programme also has provided a cadre of librarians willing and able to conduct training programmes, and it has helped participants in their current positions. A strong network for sharing information and ideas has grown up among the participants. In some cases, the training has provided experience and exposure for librarians ready for new assignments as senior managers of academic and research libraries.

Reaction to the programme from both participants and clients has been favourable, although some reservations have been expressed about a possible oversupply of consultants. However, there are other benefits. A majority of the consultant trainees have come from ARL member libraries and return to those libraries; many use skills acquired through the programme primarily to benefit their home institutions and accept consulting work on an occasional basis.

In 1982, the *Journal of academic librarianship* published a symposium on the Consultant Training Programme (Joanne Euster, ed., "ARL/OMS Consultant Training Program" 8 (4) pp. 200–210). The article combined views from OMS staff, consultant trainees, and library directors on the outcomes of the programme: its development of and contribution to the careers of individuals, the development of a group of consultants to assist libraries in conducting self-studies, and the promise of the cadre of consultants for the future of organizations.

Information report and bibliographies 13 (6) (1984)

Africa Regional Centre for Information Science (ARCIS)

The University of Ibadan in Nigeria has announced the establishment of an Africa Regional Centre for Information Science with primary responsibility to English-speaking West Africa. The University is "committed to the study and application of information science to promote the rapid socio-economic development of Africa" (Brochure). The interdisciplinary Centre will have links with computer science, economics, library studies, statistics and other relevant disciplines in the University. Academic programmes will comprise three components: seminars and workshops; higher degrees; and research. Support and coordination has been

provided by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, UNESCO, and the Association of Commonwealth Universities Secretariat in London, respectively. All enquiries should be directed to:

> Dr. W. Olabode Aiyepeku, ARCIS Project Coordinator,
> c/o Department of Library Studies,
> University of Ibadan,
> Ibadan,
> Nigeria.

Study of U.K. library schools

The University Grants Committee and the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education have jointly set up a group to study the teaching of librarianship and information studies in universities, polytechnics and colleges in the U.K. Named the "Transbinary Group on Librarianship and Information Studies", its terms of reference include advising on the current provision of courses, to make recommendations for action, reviewing likely future demand for library and information professionals, and of course "bearing in mind the changing nature of library and information work". It is hoped to present a report by early summer 1986.

Information on the social sciences

Educators looking for prototype workshops including objectives, statements by country representatives, and programmes, will be pleased to know that the Institute of Library Science at the University of the Philippines has published such a document. This is the result of a regional seminar on social sciences in Asia and the Pacific: "Information Sources, Systems, and Services in the Social Sciences – Report of a Regional Seminar". Held 11–22 July 1983 in Quezon City, Philippines, the seminar was co-sponsored by UNESCO, the University of the Philippines, and the UNESCO National Commission for the Philippines. Copies of the publication may be obtained from:

> Office of the Regional Advisor for Social Sciences in Asia and the Pacific,
> UNESCO Regional Office,
> 29/1 Sukhamvit Soi 59,
> Bangkok,
> Thailand.

The collection at the University of Cologne

Since 1976, The Faculty of Library Science, University of Cologne in the Federal Republic of Germany, has been building up a broad collection of materials relevant to education and training in the areas of information and librarianship. Although current emphasis is on educational documentation in the Federal Republic of Germany, there is a growing collection of texts on information and library education in Canada and the U.S.A. Expansion to coverage of European countries is being planned.

Types of materials (mostly in German) include library and information related laws, regulations, internal directives, statements of position, study and examination regulations, as well as secondary literature for these areas. Cooperation with the FID/ET Clearinghouse has been established. Interested parties may contact:

> Professor Paul Kaegbein,
> Lehrstuhl für Bibliothekswissenschaft,
> Universität zu Köln,
> Universitätsstrasse 33,
> D-5000 Köln 41
> Federal Republic of Germany.

Library educators attend Institute

Twelve library science faculty members from 11 library schools in the U.S. and Canada attended a three-week Institute on Research Libraries for Library Educators held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, July 9–27, 1984. CLR provided funding for the Institute, which was sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and hosted by the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill Libraries, and the UNC-CH School of Library Science. ARL's Office of Management Studies developed and coordinated the event, with the help of an advisory committee composed of library educators and library directors. The purpose of the Institute was to explore changes taking place in research libraries and to assess implications of the changes for library education. Activities included one week of seminars conducted by prominent librarians, educators, and academic administrators; one week of field visits to nearby libraries; and a week for discussions and review of the implications of Institute experiences for library education. Field visit libraries were Duke University Library, North Carolina State University Library, and the UNC-CH Libraries.

Participants gave the Institute high marks for providing new ideas for teaching and a better understanding of issues and trends affecting the research library future. They noted particularly the emphasis on the impact of technology on academic libraries, and the ability to assess the interaction between theory and practice during the field visits.

New ALISE officers

Norman Horrocks, Director, Dalhousie University School of Library Service, assumed the presidency of the Association for Library and Information Science Education following the annual conference in Washington, DC.

Ann Prentice, Director, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Library and Information Science assumed the position of Vice-President/President-Elect. Elaine Svenonius, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, Graduate School of Library and Information Science was elected Secretary-Treasurer. June Lester Engle, Associate Professor, Emory University, Division of Library and Information Management was selected as Director.

Other officers include Jane Robbins-Carter, Director, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies, Past President; Charles R. McClure, Associate Professor, University of Oklahoma School of Library Science, Director; and Joan C. Durrance, Coordinator of Continuing Education, University of Michigan School of Library Science, Director.