

NEWS

Permanent courses

Information management

Strathclyde Business School's Department of Information Science will be launching an M.Sc./Diploma in information management in October 1986. This will be the first course of its kind offered by any U.K. school of library or information science.

The course comprises six core classes:

- information resource management;
- information policy and economics;
- information technology, system and services;
- information processing applications;
- information networks;
- knowledge management.

Students will be encouraged to apply an holistic rather than a subject- or function-driven approach to the management of information resources. Throughout, the emphasis will be on developing portable skills and interdisciplinary insight. Graduates are expected to take up key positions with wide-ranging responsibilities for information policy and planning in both the public and private sectors.

For further details contact:

Andrew Doswell,
Department of Information Science,
Strathclyde Business School,
University of Strathclyde,
Livingstone Tower,
26 Richmond Street,
Glasgow G1 1XH, Scotland,
U.K.

Information studies

The College of Librarianship Wales has recently completed a comprehensive review of the core courses in its Joint Honours Degree programme, offering students the opportunity to specialize in either library studies or information studies. All students will take a common programme in Part 1, the first year, which provides a foundation for further studies, and also ensures that students who do not continue with Part 2, librarianship, but concentrate on their other Joint Honours subject in the University College of Wales do so as informed users of library and information services.

In Part 2, the second year provides common courses in the principles of management, in information systems and in information sources and services. In the final year, students choose between library studies and information studies. The latter stream is primarily for those whose career aspirations are towards the management of institutional information services in their broadest context.

For further details contact:

D.A. Matthews,
College of Librarianship Wales,
Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 3AS, Wales,
U.K.

Information and library studies

Strathclyde Business School's Department of Information Science will be offering an M.Sc./Diploma in information and library studies with effect from October 1986. This will be the only M.Sc. course of its kind in Scotland, and will be available on a full- and part-time basis.

The M.Sc. is being introduced in response to market demand for high-quality graduates with a solid grasp of the social, policy and technological issues which affect the management and operation of information and library services.

The course comprises five core classes:

- information technology and systems;
- information needs, uses and users;
- information sources and resources;
- publishing and the distribution of information;
- management of information and library systems and services.

In addition, M.Sc. candidates will be required to submit a dissertation.

Graduates of this course will be well placed to secure employment in institutional library contexts or in the rapidly expanding information industry.

For further details contact:

Blaise Cronin,
Department of Information Science,
Strathclyde Business School,
University of Strathclyde,
Livingstone Tower,
26 Richmond Street,
Glasgow G1 1XH, Scotland,
U.K.

Information management in the 1990s

The course of approximately 26 weeks' duration for a postgraduate diploma of the European Institute for Information Management will commence on Tuesday October 14, 1986.

The roster of lecturers will include the following: Prof J.C. Asselborn, Dr. Bauer-Bernet, Mr. C.R. Clough, Prof. B. Cronin, Dr. A. David, Prof. Harvard-Williams, Dr. W. Dijkhuis, Dr. D. Dore, Mr. A. Gilchrist, Miss S. Keenan, Dr. A.K. Kent, Prof. R. Kuhlen, Dr. J. Michel, Mr. A. Negus, Mr. J. Phillips, Mr. J. Sanlaville, Dr. K. Stroetmann, Dr. P. Vickers, Dr. A. Vickery, Prof. B. Vickery, Dr. G. van Slype, Prof. L. van Simaey, Prof. H. Zimmermann.

The Director of Studies will be P. Popper.

The five themes to be studied are:

- (1) information environments in the world,
- (2) information and knowledge representation,
- (3) marketing and economics of information,
- (4) information within organizations: sector orientation,
- (5) specialization.

Registration fees for the whole programme are FLux 100,000. Themes, modules, and specializations can be studied individually.

Further details from:

Institut Européen pour la Gestion de l'Information
13, rue de Bragance,
L-1255 Luxembourg.
Tel.: (352) 445811.

Research

Impact of microcomputers on academic libraries

Strathclyde Business School's Department of Information Science has been awarded a grant of £3000 by the British Library Research and Development Department to survey the use of microcomputers in academic libraries.

Paul F. Burton, Project Head, carried out a survey in 1983, which showed that only 1 library in 7 was using a micro. The present survey will use a similar questionnaire to present a "snapshot" of the current situation, and show how microcomputers have penetrated the academic library world. An important element of the project will be the creation of a directory of microcomputer users who are willing to offer advice or exchange of experience.

For further details contact:

Paul F. Burton,
Department of Information Science,
Strathclyde Business School,
University of Strathclyde,
Livingstone Tower,
26 Richmond Street,
Glasgow G1 1XH, Scotland,
U.K.

Online training package for end users

The College of Librarianship Wales has been awarded a grant of £17,500 by the British Library Research and Development Department to develop an online training package for end users based on the ESA/IRS system. It will comprise a CAL module, an emulation of ESA/IRS, including all major ESA-QUEST commands, and a series of tutorial modules intended to provide monitored practice in constructing search strategies. The relative merits of this self-contained training package will be compared with more traditional training methods in tests on end users. The package will run on an IBM PC-XT with 256K and a hard disk of at least 10 Mbyte, and will include a self-contained database of around 500 records on which the emulation can work. The project runs for 11 months (February–December 1986).

For further information contact:

J.A. Large, Project Head,
College of Librarianship Wales,
Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 3AS, Wales,
U.K.

ABRC project at Strathclyde

The Advisory Board for the Research Councils (ABRC) has contracted the Department of Information Science, Strathclyde Business School to produce a unified listing of U.K. institutions from which to generate bibliometric profiles of research activity.

A project team directed by Professor Blaise Cronin and Mr. Forbes Gibb will produce a coded list of institutions based on the 1983 and 1984 Corporate Indexes of ISI's Science Citation Index. The end-product will be used by Computer Horizons Inc. of New Jersey to furnish institutional and disciplinary publication profiles.

For further details contact:

Blaise Cronin,
Department of Information Science,
Strathclyde Business School,
University of Strathclyde,
Livingstone Tower,
26 Richmond Street,
Glasgow G1 1XH, Scotland,
U.K.

Scholarships

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Beginning in the fall of 1986, the UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies will offer the *Valmai Fenster Memorial Scholarship*, a biennial scholarship for students from Australia, New Zealand, or other nearby nations with connections with the British Empire and Commonwealth.

The award of at least \$1000 will be made every two years for students interested in advanced training at the UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies.

For additional information or application forms contact:

Barbara J. Arnold, Admissions and Placement Office,
University of Wisconsin-Madison,
School of Library and Information Studies,
4217 Helen C. White Hall,
600 N. Park Street,
Madison, WI 53706,
U.S.A.

Conferences

Technology supports curriculum: a Minnesota showcase

The Curriculum and Technology Section of the Minnesota Department of Education is sponsoring an international conference on October 2-4, 1986, in Bloomington, Minnesota that will focus on integrating technology into the curriculum and use of multiple technologies to enhance instruction. The conference will feature onsite visits to the exemplary Minnesota technology demonstration sites, opportunities to explore mobile computer and media labs, and mini-sessions on research design and development implications, policy issues, and classroom activities. Several well-known speakers, including author Isaac Asimov, will contribute the programme.

Further details from:

Janet Kielb,
Minnesota Department of Education,
683 Capitol Square Building,
550 Cedar Street,
St. Paul, MN 55101,
U.S.A.

Library / information science education: into its second century (a symposium)

Completing a hundred years is a major milestone for any endeavour. This milestone for the library/information profession will be reached in 1986. An assessment of progress is the focus of the Library Education Centennial Symposium, sponsored by ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Education) with support from the H.W. Wilson Foundation, and hosted by the Columbia University School of Library Service where the first school was begun by Melvil Dewey a century ago. Thinkers, planners, and movers concerned with library/information science education will meet on June 27–28, 1986, on the Columbia University campus to discuss the past, the progress, and the possible futures. The conference is designed to encourage dialogue between educators and information professionals.

Leaders in library/information science, including Edward G. Holley, Robert M. Hayes, Michael Buckland, George Bobinski, and Kathleen M. Heim, have prepared benchmark papers relating to issues such as curriculum, students, faculty, and the job market. These papers will be the starting point for discussion of where we have come in a century and where the future lies. It has been said that those who do not know their history are condemned to repeat it. The Symposium provides an opportunity to use our history to prepare for progress.

Second Spanish Meeting on Automated Documentation, November 20–21, 1986

This Spanish meeting takes place every two years in a different place within Spain. The first one was held in Madrid two years ago. This year's meeting is divided into four areas, each one with an invited paper: professional training, database production and distribution, library automation, and cooperation in documentation activities.

Further details from:

Mrs. Juana Muñoz,
D.G. del Libro y de Bibliotecas,
Consejería de Cultura,
c/ Cuesta del Rosario, 8,
41004 Sevilla,
Spain.
Tel.: (954) 21 63 49.

FID / ET Pre-congress Seminar, Montreal, September 8–11, 1986

Monday, September 8

Introductory session. *Greetings and remarks*

Session I. *Technology transfer as a field of study*

Provides an overview of the new interdisciplinary field of study referred to as

“technology transfer”. Defines related concepts of hardware transfer, information transfer, knowledge transfer. Identifies the two major areas in this field: (1) transfer of knowledge from research to decision making (national activities), and (2) crossnational transfer of technology (international activities).

3 papers (summaries and discussion).

Session II. Technology transfer for national development

Explores the responsibility of educators to prepare information professionals for national roles in development. Includes: knowledge transfer as a key to development; scientific and technical information transfer in the curriculum; social science information transfer in the curriculum; information literacy, social role of information, dissemination and cultural aspects in the curriculum.

4 papers (summaries and discussion).

Tuesday, September 9

Session III. International technology transfer

The focus is on international information and communication and what courses, workshops, practicum might prepare information professionals for work in this area. Includes: curricular implications of transborder data flows; telecommunication policies and other international developments; scientific data transmission; use of computer systems, microcomputers, software, etc. Emphasis is on developing countries.

4 papers (summaries and discussion).

Session IV. Teaching the planning and assessment of information systems and services in industry

Co-sponsored by the FID Committee on Information for Industry. Deals with the principles and methods of planning and evaluation; courses, workshops and practicum in planning and assessment techniques. Includes: technology assessment as applied to information technology and libraries; choices and decisions in introducing new technology and systems.

4 papers (summaries and discussion).

Wednesday, September 10

Session V. Preparing information specialists for research

Concentrates on research as an indispensable element in successful knowledge transfer; research in the curriculum; teaching research methodology in various programmes, from advanced programmes to in-house training and continuing education.

4 papers (summaries and discussion).

Session VI. Panel discussion: international cooperation in knowledge transfer

Four panelists positing four views:

- (1) education aspects,
- (2) economic aspects,

- (3) technological aspects,
 - (4) legal aspects.
- Audience discussion.

Thursday, September 11

Session VII. *International organizations and resources*

Administrative and educational resources to assist information and library schools in developing new programmes or continuing education seminars in the area of technology transfer; intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and their resources; technical assistance programmes; teaching aids and materials.

4 papers (summaries and discussion).

Session VIII. *Open forum*

Statements and comments by representatives of organizations.

Concluding session. *Review and evaluation of the Seminar*

ALISE international "Adopt A Twin" programme

The "Adopt A Twin" programme, sponsored by the International Committee of the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), began in Spring 1985. The purpose of the programme is to provide a means by which North American library schools can assist the faculty and students of library schools in lesser developed countries by providing the latter with back issues of the *Journal of education in library and information science (JELIS)*. The issues themselves are free of charge and are available in complete sets at ALISE headquarters in Pennsylvania; the host school pays for shipment charges.

The procedure is as follows: the American school may choose its own "twin", or may request suggestions from the chair of the International Committee. The current chair is

Mohammed M. Aman, Dean,
School of Library and Information Science,
P.O. Box 413,
Milwaukee, WI 53201,
U.S.A.

Once the foreign school (or schools) is decided upon, the North American school contacts

ALISE headquarters,
c/o Janet Phillips, Executive Secretary,
417 Park Lane,
State College, PA 16803,
U.S.A.

ALISE then sends, via UPS, a complete set of back issues to the North American school, which is responsible for contacting its new "twin" and deciding on the best method of shipment. The American school must also reimburse ALISE for the UPS charges.

Shipping *JELIS* back issues overseas is relatively simple and can be done in whatever method is most desirable and cost-effective. The U.S. Post Office offers a special overseas rate for printed material; the rate varies according to method of delivery (boat or air), distance to be travelled, and weight (one complete set of *JELIS* consists of 28 bound volumes and weight about 25 pounds). Delivery by boat is quite inexpensive (about 55 cents a pound), but the material may take months to arrive. In contrast, air shipment is much faster and, therefore, costlier; for example, the rate in June 1985 was \$6.00 a pound from the U.S. midwest to parts of the Orient.

Once the "adoption" is in process, the American school should make sure it notifies the present chair of the International Committee so that accurate records of the programme are kept and unnecessary duplication is avoided. It is also appreciated if copies of all pertinent correspondence between the two schools are sent to the Committee chair.

Following is a list of North American schools who have adopted or are in the process of adopting a foreign library school as of January, 1986.

- Dalhousie: University of Nigeria, Nsukka,
- Alberta: Abdullahi Bayero University, Nigeria,

In addition, Simmons College has an established formal agreement with Wuhan University, People's Republic of China.

The International Committee of ALISE is urging North American schools of library and information science to increase the level of activity between them and their adopted twin by sending non-ALISE materials, such as duplicates of other library and information science journals, catalogues, reprints of faculty publications and other materials. The adoption can also go beyond sending publications to cover one- or two-way exchange of faculty and students in the hope of strengthening ties between North American schools and those in developing countries.

Mohammed M. Aman

Reciprocity of qualifications

The IFLA Section on Library Schools and Other Training Aspects wishes to develop specific guidelines for equivalence and reciprocity of professional qualifications. This project is considered a logical follow-up of the Section's previous projects which resulted in the publication of the *International guide to library and information science education* (Saur, 1985; IFLA publications no. 32).

The *International guide* provides the data on professional programmes worldwide and establishes the levels of these programmes.

For this new project a Working Group has been formed consisting of Edith Fischer (Austria), Josephine Fang (U.S.A.) and Paul Nauta (Netherlands).

The aim of the project is to prepare recommendations for commonly acceptable professional criteria for the various levels of professional education.

The following target groups have been identified:

- intergovernmental, governmental and nongovernmental bodies involved in library and information science (LIS) education;
- professional, educational, and other organizations involved in LIS education;
- institutions offering LIS programmes;
- individuals involved or interested in LIS education, such as administrators, planners, teachers, students, practising professionals, etc.

Goals and objectives

The criteria which will be developed can be used as an instrument:

- for the comparison of established programmes with others in the world, which could inspire reviewing and improving programmes;
- for the recognition of LIS diplomas/degrees beyond a country's border, which could enlarge the possibilities for professionals to work in other countries, and which could stimulate the development of exchange programmes for faculty, students, and professional staff;
- for aiding in the establishment of new LIS programmes and curricula.

It is expected that the results of this project will encourage cooperation and coordination of LIS education, as well as professional cooperation and exchanges on an institutional, regional, national, and international basis. The Section would appreciate help in investigating what has been done in this area, and would welcome any information on ideas developed in particular countries. Please send information to:

Paul Nauta,
Frederick Muller Akademie,
P.O. Box 10895,
1001 EW Amsterdam,
The Netherlands.

New ALISE officers elected

New Association for Library and Information Science Education officers for 1986 are Ann Prentice, President, and Kathleen M. Heim, Vice-President and President-Elect. Thomas Childers was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors joining Joan C. Durrance (University of Michigan) and June Lester Engle (Emory University). Other ALISE officers are Norman Horrocks (Dalhousie University), Past President; Elaine Svenonius (UCLA), Secretary-Treasurer; and Janet Phillips, Executive Secretary.

Prentice, who is Director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, assumed the office of President during the ALISE Annual Conference held in Chicago, January 15–17, 1986. She has written extensively and consulted in the area of management and financial planning.

Her announced theme for the 1987 Annual Conference (January 14–16, Chicago) is “Information: relationships with other disciplines”.

Heim is Dean of the School of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. She is widely recognized for her research on government information provision and personnel issues in the library profession. Currently she is doing research on the role of library school faculties in public policy.

Childers, Professor at the Drexel University College of Information Studies, is best known for his research in the unobtrusive measurement of public library reference services.

ALISE, founded in 1915, has as its overall goal the promotion of excellence in education for library and information science as a means of increasing the effectiveness of library and information service. The Association publishes the *Journal of education for library and information science* (published five times a year) and the annual *Library and information science education statistical report*. Correspondence may be addressed to

Janet Phillips, Executive Secretary,
417 Park Lane,
State College, PA 16803,
U.S.A.

University of Michigan

William J. Welsh, The Deputy Librarian of Congress, participated in the first meeting of the Library Science Advisory Committee of the University of Michigan's School of Library Science on December 20, 1985. The purpose of the Committee is to assist in defining and articulating the School's mission and role at the University, in the library profession, and in the emerging world of information management, and to explore ways in which the school can become more interdisciplinary and build or strengthen bridges with business, government, and information-oriented disciplines on campus. The Committee was appointed by Robert M. Warner, Dean of the School of Library Science, who chaired the meeting, and includes representatives of major research, public, and state libraries, University Microfilms, and other schools within the University of Michigan.

Optical Disk Forum encourages standards for CD-ROMs

The first meeting of the Optical Disk Forum was held in Luxembourg on January 22, 1986, with over 70 members from the European publishing and information industries from 10 countries. The meeting addressed the issue of standards for CD-ROMs with the object of educating the industry on standardization issues to encourage an ordered early development of this new technology. Delegates heard an explanation of the current standards position, and the need for further standards, from Aad Proeme (Philips International), Julie Schwering (InfoTech), Bela Hatvany (Silver-Platter), and David Martin (British Library).

From the exposition, delegates learned that the current crucial area for standards was at the logical files level—the layout of the directory and bootstrap blocks that enables a standard computer operating system to interact with any CD-ROM configured for that general system and for overcoming file and drive size limitations inherent in some microcomputer operating systems. Julie Schwering and Philip Lord (Elsevier) reported that agreement was near in the United States concerning a recommended standard in this area; the hope was that the soon-to-be-issued recommendations would be minimal, would address all common computer operating systems and would not sacrifice either time or simplicity in attempting to address the data-processing industry's interest in the potential use of compact disks as optical storage devices that could be written to.

Following the Forum, an interested group decided to conduct an immediate assessment of likely American proposals in this area. The hope was either that the American proposals could be accepted *en bloc* by the European information industry, or that European industry could influence any eventual standard. It was felt by the Forum to be in everyone's interest to have a common U.S.–European standard in place as soon as possible to give the respective information industries the biggest possible common marketplace for the new information packaging medium.

A decision was taken by the Forum representatives to launch an immediate assessment of the U.S. proposals; the European Commission—which had made available meeting and translation facilities for the first meeting of the Forum—indicated that it would probably help to underwrite part of the expense of conducting the rapid assessment.

The Optical Disk Forum is a European information industry initiative organized and managed by Learned Information Ltd. under the direction of an industry advisory board. The second meeting of the Forum is scheduled for May 1986 when members will hear a detailed analysis of the assessment of the U.S. standards and their acceptability to a European environment.

Further information from:

Roger Bilboul or Harry Collier,
Learned Information Ltd.,
Besselsleigh Road,
Abingdon, Oxford OX13 6LG, England,
U.K.
Tel.: (0865) 730 275; telex: 837704.

Newspaper for the European information industry—*Information world review*

Learned Information has launched the first monthly newspaper for the European information community. This international periodical presents an overview of what is happening in the many and varied branches of the information industry.

The electronic information industry, though only 20 years old, is now of sufficient size and importance to support its own newspaper and *Information world*

review offers the European information community a clear perspective of the industry.

Regular contributors, well-known in the information industry, include: Barry Mahon on the European information scene; George Anderla and Johan van Halm on the French and Dutch industry perspectives; Donald Stephenson on telecommunications; Lea Briggs on legal affairs and Tim Owen on the business scene.

Previously published on an occasional basis, *Information world review* is now available every month on subscription.

For further information on *Information world review* contact:

Editorial: Peter Hyams,
Subscriptions: Janice Simms,
Advertising: Michael Hislop,
Press: Tessa Gutteridge,
Learned Information Ltd.,
Besselsleigh Road,
Abingdon, Oxford OX13 6LG, England,
U.K.
Tel.: (0865) 730 275; telex: 837704.

Library and information science training courses in Latin America

The Regional Centre for Computer Science Teaching (CREI) is an international not-for-profit institution created by the Spanish government and the Intergovernmental Bureau of Informatics (IBI). Its main function is the teaching in the Spanish language of scientific and technical disciplines to enable automation of information at all levels to be carried out. Its activities are mainly centred in South America. The subject scope of CREI goes beyond the limits of information and documentation but during the last year several intensive courses (30 hours) have been organized by or with the cooperation of the CREI in these fields: Automation in Librarianship—Advanced Course (Costa Rica and Paraguay); Automated Information and Documentation Systems (Costa Rica and Ecuador). CREI has also sponsored the First Latin-American Congress on Computers and Documentation, held in Medellin (Colombia) in November 1985. Apart from organizing its own courses, CREI also accepts proposals to organize courses from institutions in Spanish-speaking countries.

For more details please contact:

Maria Teresa Molina,
Jefe de Estudios CREI,
Apartado de correos 232,
Madrid,
Spain.
Tel.: (1) 778 37 36; telex: 48238 CREI E.

Financing online work

ESA-IRS provides concessions for all those educational establishments in which online information retrieval is taught as an integral part of the curriculum. Through the ESA-IRS Trainee Programme schools can make a fixed budget commitment at the start of the academic year, confident in the knowledge that there will be no nasty surprises later on. What it amounts to is a yearly flat rate for a password.

Institutes have the choice of two types of contract:

Option A. The user receives one password and pays a yearly fee of 1000 AU. For this amount, and with one password, the user has unlimited access to the ESA-IRS training files for a period of twelve months. The files available are: Inspec Info Science (31), Pascal training file (37), Chemabs training file (38), Inspec training file (39), CAB training file (112), ABI Inform training file (113).

Option B. Under this option the same files are offered for a period of twelve months at a discounted 4000 AU if a package of five passwords is requested.

A combination of the two options is also possible.

Contact:

ESRIN,
Via Galileo Galilei,
00044 Frascati, Rome,
Italy