IFLA SLB Pre-Conference
Washington, DC, USA
Holiday Inn Capitol
August 13-15, 2001

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Schedule At-a-Glance

DAY ONE: Monday, August 13

7:30 am - 8:30 am
Continental breakfast at the exhibits

8:30 am - 9:30 am
Conference Opening
Master of Ceremonies: Richard Tucker, The Force Foundation, The Netherlands
Keynote Address: Dr. Euclid Herie, President, CNIB, Canada

9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Session A – Children and Youth: Are Libraries For the Blind Meeting their
Education Needs?
Convener: Helen Brazier, National Library for the Blind, United States

12:30 pm - 2:15 pm
Lunch and opening of exhibits
Convenor: Bente Dahl, The Danish National Library for the Blind, Denmark

2:15 pm - 3:30 pm
Exhibits open

2:15 - 3:30 pm
IFLA: SLB Working Groups Session

Convenor: Victoria Owen, Director of Library Services, CNIB Library for the Blind, Canada

3:30 - 7:00 pm
Tour of NLS
Reception and dinner

7:00 - 9:30 pm
Dessert at the exhibits

DAY TWO: Tuesday, August 14

7:30 am - 8:30 am
Continental breakfast at the exhibits

8:30 am - 11:30 am
Session B – Digital Library Services and Education: Promise or Reality?
Convener: Päivi Voutilainen, Celia Library for the Visually Impaired, Finland

11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Lunch at the exhibits

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
SESSION C – Creating Inclusive Models of Service
Convener: Will Reed, Cleveland Public Library, United States

3:15 pm - 9:00 pm
Tour of Mount Vernon Estate
Dr. Dayton M. Forman Memorial Award Dinner (sponsored by VisuAide Inc.).

DAY THREE: Wednesday, August 15

7:30 am - 8:30 am
Continental breakfast in the Main Ballroom

8:30 am - 10:00 am
SESSION D – Building Small Digital Libraries for the Blind: Worldwide Solutions for Low Budget Situations
Convener: Bente Dahl, The Danish National Library for the Blind, Denmark

10:15 am - 11:00 am
Top Ten Issues Break Out Sessions

Team: Carol Pollitt (Team Leader), National Library for the Blind, United Kingdom; Margaret Andrewes, Lincoln Public Library System, Canada; Ellen Stroud, CNIB Library for the Blind, Canada

11:00 am - 11:15 am
Best Practices Panel and Award Presentations
Margaret Bennett, National Library for the Blind, United Kingdom

11:30 pm - 12:00 pm
Closing Session
There is a Library in My Television
Kevin Carey, Director, HumanITy, United Kingdom
Convenor: Richard Tucker, The FORCE Foundation, The Netherlands

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Library of Congress Tour (optional)

Note: Exhibits may be open beyond scheduled hours on August 13 and 14.

Detailed Session Agendas

SESSION A – Children and Youth: Are Libraries For the Blind Meeting Their Education Needs?

Convener: Helen Brazier, National Library for the Blind, United Kingdom

Often blind children do not experience library service until they are five or more years of age. This session examines the importance of reading for blind children and youth. It will also explore their experience with using libraries and the training generally provided for them to use libraries effectively.
- From Mother Goose to Euripedes: Reading in the Formative Years
  Victoria Owen, CNIB Library for the Blind, Canada
- One Student's Experience: University Library Service
  Jason Ewell, Student, John Carroll University, United States
  – Coffee Break –
- One Student's Experience in the Developing World
  Nozipho Khanda, Zimbabwe, Africa
- Turning the Page: A Story About Reading
  Ben McConnell, Student, Woodhaven Junior High School, Canada
- Future Library Services: Developing Research Skills Among Blind Students
  Dr. Klaus Miesenberger, Computer Science for the Blind, University of Linz, Austria

SESSION B – Digital Library Services and Education: Promise or Reality?
Convener: Päivi Voutilainen, Celia Library for the Visually Impaired, Finland

Digital libraries are emerging everywhere, but what are they, and how will they transform learning through reading or studying? The panelists and audience members will explore present and future opportunities.
- Bringing Electronic Books into the Digital Library: Identifying the Issues
  Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Ph.D, netLibrary, Inc., United States
- Microsoft and DAISY: Transforming Access to Information for Students and Working Adults
  George Kerscher, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, DAISY Consortium,   United States
- BrailleNet: Digital Document Delivery for the Blind in France
  Dominique Burger, INSERM, France
  – Coffee Break –
- The Future of Lifelong Learning in the Next Generation of Library Services
  Carolyn Sung, Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, United States
- Education on the Job: Is Library Service Essential to the Blind Professional?
  Gerry Chevalier, Promek Consulting Ltd., Canada

SESSION C – Creating Inclusive Models of Service
Convener: Will Reed, Cleveland Public Library, United States

Library services for the blind are organized differently from country to country. In some countries they are part of a network of libraries and services delivered within their communities. In others they are developed by blindness agencies as part of their rehabilitation services. What are socially inclusive models of accessible library services, and can these services truly be a part of libraries designed for the general public?
- Citizen Participation Leads to Establishment of EASY Grants for Adaptive Technologies
  Jeanette Studley, Alexandria Public Library, United States
- The U.K. Experience: Towards a Vision of National Service
  David Owen, Share the Vision, United Kingdom
- The Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities in Mexico and the Impact of Libraries on their Learning
  Marco Antonio Fonseca Guzman, CEISD, Mexico
- Placing Library Service for the Blind in the Community
  Shelagh Paterson, CNIB Library for the Blind, Canada

SESSION D – Building Small Digital Libraries for the Blind: Worldwide

Solutions for Low Budget Situations
Convener: Bente Dahl, The Danish National Library for the Blind, Denmark

How can small libraries afford the information technology they need to bridge the digital divide? How can they use information technology such as the Internet to increase access to books and information for their blind readers? The panelists and audience explore opportunities and success stories.

- Making Use of the Internet: Simple Techniques to Consider
  Jenny Craven, Centre for Research in Library and Information Management, United Kingdom
- Enabling the Library User
  Malin Gustavsson, Open Media Open Learning, Sweden (Invited)
- Applying Techniques for Improving Content for Blind Asians
  Wong Yoon Loong, Malaysian Association for the Blind, Malaysia
  – Coffee Break –

Working Groups Agenda

Working groups provide an opportunity for all members to contribute to the development of libraries for the blind around the world by discussing issues, formulating guidelines, creating seminars, and communicating new developments. Please plan to attend and participate in these sessions. For more information about each group, please contact the appropriate coordinator.

Collection Development and Resource Sharing
Topics: guidelines for cataloguing, opportunities for resource sharing, development of electronic collections and digital talking books, the application of metadata
Coordinator: Margaret Bennett margaret.bennett@nlbuk.org
Coordinator: Dick Tucker dtucker@f-force.nl

Library Systems and Information Technology
Topics: expansion of resource collections using the Internet, the development of digital library guidelines for vendors
Coordinator: Päivi Voutilainen paivi.voutilainen@nvkirjasto.fi

Copyright and Rights Management
Topics: influencing national copyright legislation, creating opportunities for international copyright agreements, developing guidelines for rights management
Coordinator: Henri Chauchat avh@avh.asso.fr
Coordinator: Hiroshi Kawamura hkawa@attglobal.net

Management and Strategic Planning

Topics: creation of standard performance indicators, development of a strategic planning framework
Coordinator: Elsebeth Tank eta@dbb.dk

Marketing and Advocacy
Topics: methods to improve awareness and comprehension of service requirements for blind library users and to improve cooperation with them
Coordinator: Barbara Mates barbara.mates@cpl.org

Francophone Issues and Services
Topics: identifying resources, promoting cooperation
Coordinator: Dick Tucker dtucker@f-force.nl
Coordinator: Victoria Owen owenv@lib.cnib.ca

Top Ten Issues

What are the foremost questions facing providers of library services for the blind today? IFLA SLB members have been asked to state their ten most burning issues on their registration form. On the final day of the conference, the ten most popular will be discussed in breakout groups. Here are some of the topics that may be among them:

- Copyright issues (including digital rights management)
- Advocacy for users and libraries
- Mainstreaming library service for blind and print-disabled users
- Building production capacity for materials in non-print formats
- Technology for users in the digital age
- Resource sharing and collection building
- Union catalogues: buy-in or buy-out?
- Digital talking books
- Cataloguing and metadata
- Braille and electronic text development
- Building relationships with the publishing community
- Children's library service
- Specifications for digital library systems
- Connecting students and information
- Partnerships with libraries in developing countries

Best Practices

IFLA SLB members are asked to share examples of best practices in library services for visually impaired people throughout the world. The projects will be shared on the final day of the Pre-Conference, and the winning project will receive a prize. We want examples of projects involving all kinds of libraries and partnerships and projects that other organizations can easily replicate.

To enter your project, tell us in approximately 500 words what user needs it was set up to meet, how you did it, what resources were involved, and what the outcome was. Please mark your project IFLA SLB Best Practice Competition and send to Margaret Bennett, c/o Rose Stanfield, National Library for the Blind, Far Cromwell Road, Bredbury, Stockport UK, SK6 2SG. Fax: 0161 355 2098. E-mail: rose.stanfield@nlbuk.org

Exhibitors

The corporations and organizations listed below are some of the professionals who will be sharing their expertise as well as demonstrating their product lines at the 2001 IFLA SLB Pre-Conference exhibits.

Ai-Squared*
Aurora Bible Alliance
Columbia Lighthouse
Duxbury Systems
Enabling Technologies
Freedom Scientific
Index Braille**
Low Vision International**
Optelec*
Plextor
Sighted Electronics, Inc.
Telex Corporation
VisuAide Inc. Canada

*Represented by Columbia Lighthouse
**Represented by Sighted Electronics

Travel Tips

Washington DC is served by three major airports. Washington Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA) is four miles (seven kilometres) south of Washington, a 15-minute drive from the Pre-Conference. Dulles International Airport (IAD) is 26 miles (42 kilometers) west of the city, a drive of up to one hour. Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) is 30 miles (50 kilometers) northwest of the city and is also up to one hour away by car.

Taxis, shuttle services, public transportation, car rental offices and limousine services are available from all airports.

In August, Washington is warm and humid, with temperatures occasionally exceeding 86 degrees Fahrenheit (30 degrees Celsius). Most facilities are air-conditioned.

Local time is five hours behind GMT. Conference attire is business casual. When in Washington, please keep safety in mind just as you would while visiting any unfamiliar place.

For more information, please see the official tourism site for Washington DC, http://www.washington.org/, or the Library of Congress Travel Information site at http://www.loc.gov/loc/visit/travel.html.

Pre-Conference Registration Deadline:
June 22, 2001

Have you...
- Completed the enclosed registration form and submitted it along with your payment?
- Reserved your accomodation with the Holiday Inn Capitol?