

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

UAP

At the beginning of May I attended the UNESCO IFLA Congress on the Universal Availability of Publications which was held in Paris. Also representing Australia were Ian Tweedie from Murdoch University and Judith Green from the University of New England.

The objective of the UAP program is the widest possible availability of publications to intending users wherever and whenever they need them. The UAP program is intended to be a positive one to remove barriers to access and to improve services from publishers, booksellers and librarians. There are many obstacles to the availability of publications; some are social or educational.

Many potential users lack the motivation to seek access to knowledge through publications because their education has not been adequate for them to read or seek information. Poverty, physical obstacles such as distance or lack of mobility, disabilities and language are major barriers. Economic and political barriers, particularly Customs regulations, taxes and duties and censorship may be powerful barriers to access.

Other problems are lack of an indigenous publishing industry or a dominance of foreign publications, hindrances to distribution, inefficient interlibrary loans system, the cost of equipment for the use of non-book materials and the paradoxical problem of growing demand by readers, growing output of publications, growing costs and shrinking budgets.

The Congress worked through a draft working document (UNESCO Pg. 1-82/UAP/2) which outlines the problems and discusses solutions. The draft resolutions accompany-

ing this document were considerably revised and extended. UNESCO will publish a revised version as soon as Mr Maurice Line and the UNESCO Office for Interlibrary Lending (based at the British Library Lending Division) have revised the working document in terms of the discussions and resolutions of the Congress.

The resolutions of the Congress are designed to ensure that action takes place to remove barriers to availability and to improve services. The resolutions range over a wide field and include requests to Governments to adopt national information policies and to adopt the UNESCO conventions on exchange; requests to the professional organisations of librarians, booksellers and publishers to improve training and education in all three fields; suggestions that library, bookselling and publishing associations establish joint working parties to tackle problems together; calls for a wider spread of libraries and bookshops; calls for continuing research into users' needs; calls for library schools to develop sensitivity for users' needs in their students; the integration of education in the use of information at all levels of education from primary schools upwards; that libraries develop national acquisitions policies; that member states of UNESCO should undertake production or reproduction in microform or digitised form of the past and current output of their Government publications. These are just some of the many resolutions which will flow from the Congress to governments, library associations, national libraries, UNESCO and other relevant bodies.

I have written a report of the Congress together with a draft listing of the resolutions and have referred it to the LAA/ABPA/ABA Joint Committee and to the National Library and will be presenting it to General Council and to other relevant bodies, firstly to support action which we in Australia have under way in many of the areas and, I hope, to stimulate action in other areas which still need to be improved or changed. I hope you will read either the draft working document which was

published in April or the revised working document when it is issued and see what action you can take in any of the areas of concern.

One of the joys of the Congress was meeting so many friends from other countries and making new friends. Maurice Line particularly asked that his regards be passed on to Australia.

Another part of my holiday was spent in Singapore where I spoke to a meeting of the Library Association of Singapore and was entertained in the way only Singapore librarians can. I was asked to invite Australian librarians to attend the biennial conference of CONSAL (Conference of South-East Asian Librarians) which is to be held in Singapore at the end of May 1983. More details about this in a later issue of *InCite*. Singapore librarians sent their regards to Australian colleagues. They were particularly pleased to hear that Darwin was to be the location for our 1986 conference. I hope we can look forward to increasing numbers of Australian and South-East Asian librarians at our respective conferences.

Judith Baskin

Library Association of Australia

Election of Executive Officers to hold office in 1983 and 1984

Call for nominations

In accordance with Division F of the Regulations, nominations are now called from financial members of the Library Association of Australia for the following positions:

**Vice-President 1983
(President-elect 1984)
General Treasurer 1983
and 1984**

Candidates and nominators should read the relevant Regulations carefully.

Please note that nominations shall be

- in writing;
- signed by two financial members of the LAA;
- accompanied by the written consent of the nominee, who shall supply a curriculum vitae and a statement of professional concerns (each of no more than 100 words).

Nominations must reach the Executive Director, LAA, 473 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, by **5 pm on Wednesday, 1 September 1982.**

Susan Acutt
Executive Director

Report from A/V Committee

A ONE-DAY Continuing Education program, 'Video Technology and Libraries' held at Kuring-gai CAE on 30 April was attended by 49 people.

Topics and speakers included Overview of video innovations (Paul Bisnette and Sue Nielsen, Kuring-gai CAE); Videotex (Marge Broward, Information Management Consultant); Cable Television (Janette Parkinson, Director, State Film Library); Domestic Satellites (John Hiller, Uni NSW, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science); Computer Assisted Instruction (Rod Sims, Control Data Aust. Pty Ltd); Microcomputers (John Kerrisk, Dept of Information Studies, Kuring-gai CAE); Videodisc (Paul Bisnette; Christ Russell, Bell & Howell).

Film Centre

Administrative responsibility for the Film Centre, Uni NSW has been transferred to the University Library.

It will operate under the control of the Audiovisual Librarian. However, requests should still be sent to Tony Hill or Helen O'Neil, Film Centre, Uni NSW, PO Box 1, Kensington NSW.

Pictures in ABN

Plans are in hand to enter the National Library's pictorial record on ABN.

A specialist working party being set up

within the National Library to look critically at the cataloguing codes proposed for non-book materials including films, manuscripts, music, sound recording and pictorial material is to report to the National ABN Standards Committee in September.

Book selection and censorship

The Metropolitan Chief Librarians' Committee (NSW) is revising the statement on Book Selection and Censorship which was adopted many years ago by the Library Board of NSW.

It is expected that the new statement will take audio-visual materials into consideration.

LYNX

Libramatic Systems have announced a data base development and service (LYNX) which will provide a means of distributing MARC records in a similar way to AMRS.

It aims to provide access to MARC records not available through the Australian MARC Record Service, and will also give an opportunity to Libramatic Catalogue Systems' clients to share their original cataloguing data.

Initially, the data base will contain Australian and LC film records supplied under an

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