Information, environment and evolution: scholarly and professional approaches on IFLA Trends

Objective

Continue the discussions about the challenges and opportunities regarding to the five high IFLA Trends in the evolving digital environment. What would be the significant implications to the National Library Systems, the LIS Schools, and the National Library Association in Latin America?

Participants

- Heads of National Library Systems
- Deans of National Library Associations
- IFLA unit professionals members
- Researchers, academics and experts in LIS field

Speakers were from Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras and Uruguay, apart from Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Spain.

Venue

Library and Information Science Research Institute at UNAM. Address: Torre II de Humanidades, floor 13, Ciudad Universitaria, Coyoacán, México

Theme

In 2013 IFLA identified five global trends which will shape the evolving digital environment of the information. These IFLA trends were discussed by international experts in a satellite meeting regarding to the IFLA Presidential Meeting in Mexico City. They generated the IFLA Trend Report as a main product of their efforts.

One year later this interdisciplinary effort, it's the turn to the Latin American librarians to discuss and analyze the IFLA Trend Report in the light of our reality. Accordingly, we are waiting that the Latin American Library sphere will be awake in the face of several global changes already occurred, so formulating proposal to respond their own needs.

During the first Regional Forum, the Latin American Library community had a general approach to global changes.

Now, more Latin American representatives would add in order to share their scholarly and professional perspectives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala Honduras, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay. The speakers will gather in June 19th and 20th. Besides, speakers will participate virtually through online streaming.

Thursday, June 19th

9:50 – 10:00 *Opening Session*

10:00 – 12:00 *Roundtable 1. New technologies and the access to the information*

Dra. Perla Olivia Rodríguez Reséndiz
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dra. Brenda Cabral
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dra. Silvia Prada Forero
PUJ Library System, Colombia
Dra. Sueli Ferreira
IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, Brazil
Dr. Juan Carlos Marcos Recio
Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
MSc. Bárbara Lazo Rodríguez
IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, Cuba
Dr. Andrés Fernández Ramos
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Spain
Lic. Jonathan Ernesto Menjívar Pleitez
National Library Association of El Salvador, ABES

Presenter: **Dr. Jaime Ríos Ortega**

12:00 – 12:30 *Coffee break*

12:30 – 14:00 *Roundtable 2. Online education and global e-learning*

Dr. Roberto Garduño Vera
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dr. Miguel Ángel Rendón Rojas
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dra. Patricia Hernández Salazar
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dra. Nancy Vanegas
IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, Colombia
Dra. Rocío del Pilar Correa Aguilar
National Programme on Reading, CONACULTA, Mexico
Mag. Lovania Garmendia Bonilla
National Library Association of Costa Rica, COPROBI
Dra. Nítida Carranza
UPN Library System, Honduras
Mag. Marcela Gil Calderón
Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica

Presenter: **Dr. Ariel Rodríguez García**

Friday, June 20th

9:30 – 10:30 *Roundtable 3. Privacy and data protection*

Loida García-Febo
IFLA Governing Board
Lic. Wendy Mateo
National Library Association of Ecuador, COBAME
Dr. Genaro Luis García López
Universidad de Salamanca, Spain

Presenter: **Dra. Georgina Araceli Torres Vargas**

10:30 – 12:30 *Roundtable 4. Hyper-connectivity and new groups empowerment*

Dr. Juan José Calva González
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dr. Héctor Alejandro Ramos Chávez
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Mtra. Nora Domínguez Rodríguez
INCEDES, Guatemala
Lic. Waldo Fritz Espinar Rocha
National Library Association of Bolivia, CPCIB
Lic. Doris Samanez Alzamora
Information centers consultant, Peru
Lic. Carina Patrón
National Library Association of Uruguay, ABU

Presenter: **Dr. Egbert John Sánchez Vanderkast**

12:30 – 13:30 *Mesa 5. Global economy of information and new technologies*

Dra. Georgina Araceli Torres Vargas
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dr. Héctor Guillermo Alfaro López
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Dr. Salvador Gorbea Portal
UNAM Library and Information Science Research Institute, Mexico
Mtro. Saúl Armendariz
National Library Association of Mexico, AMBAC

Presenter: **Dra. Patricia Hernández Salazar**

Closing session

Summary

Still on the thematic distribution as the first edition, the **first roundtable** was focused on new technologies and access to information. Perla Rodríguez addressed educative and cultural approaches to sound archive materials, explaining such projects that have set trends in management and access to digital documents as Österreichische mediathek or European Sounds. Brenda Cabral reflected on information, technologies obstacles and diverse glances on Intellectual Property. Silvia Prada–Forero, who is Chair of PUJ Library System and IFLA/LAC SC Colombian member, analyzed the situation that affects to library users and the solutions offered by professional librarians who propose Resources Centers at Universities in Colombia. Juan-Carlos Marcos-Recio and Amada Marcos, who is IFLA/LAC SC Spaniard member, exposed a number of innovative ideas embarked upon at IE University Business School Library and other Spanish libraries.

Cuban representative at IFLA/LAC SC, Bárbara Lazo identified in depth the situation in Cuba and the manner how this people have ingeniously resolved to adapt them to fast technological change. As IFLA/LAC SC member, she encouraged other members to take their responsibility for advocating actions as discussions and workshops. The commitment is with their communities. She mentioned, for instance, only 43% of Cuban families have access to Internet at home, but this digital gap isn't different at regional level. She said 616 million of people live in 33 Latin American countries, but the half even hasn't access in 24 countries. Finally in this roundtable, Andrés Fernández suggested thematic directories as gateway to qualified contents in the Web.

The roundtable no. 2 addressed online education and e–learning. Roberto Garduño talked about his line of research on certification in online formal and informal education, and the emergence of MOOCs. He suggested research projects as: a.) Curriculum, b.) LIS Teacher education in ethical, cultural and political values, c.) LIS education contents, d.) MOOC features.

On the contrary, Miguel Rendón attracted attention on Humanism and graduated librarians who are *haunted* by technologies with *incantations* fuelled by marketing. He talked about *the society of artificiality* in existence within *the global village* where *animism* allows give us *notion that inanimate objects are alive*, attributing the idea that "sun and trees were alive", in the same way as our belief in smartphones. This involves positions in individualism and isolation, fragmentation within human knowledge, depersonalization and supposed smart objects. Finally, he mentioned Humanists who had been Librarians and they had brought *the light* to their communities. In other words, they had been decided *to humanize the society of artificiality* in the past.

Patricia Hernández described her research proposal on online communities of practice as option for librarians to develop information literacy. Nancy Vanegas, who is Chair of PUJ Library System in Cali, Colombia, and IFLA/LAC SC Colombian member, delineated new challenges to libraries within learning/teaching environments, and she argued it based on IFLA Trends and Horizon Reports.

Rocío Correa, Adviser to Mexican Programme for Reading, addressed the development and global change during transition from Post-Industrial Societies to Information Society in the framework of

evolving digital environment. As Dean of the Professional College for Graduated Librarians of Costa Rica, Lovania Garmendia argued COPROBI Governing Board consider in exploring the online training to provide tools and skills to Costa Rican librarians through liaising at national and international levels, as well as to develop a service portfolio with required experiences, skills and work competence.

Nítida Carranza, Adviser and former President of Honduran Library Association ABIDH, shared her experiences and lessons learned regarding to online training and she described interactive e-learning environments focused on learners and developed under meaningful learning models.

As IFLA Governing Board Member, Loida García-Febo inaugurated the **roundtable no. 3** concerning Privacy and Data Protection; meanwhile, she addressed IFLA Code of Ethics whereas privacy is respected in support of library users, and required measurements are detailed to ensure that the user data will not be used for other than its original purpose. She also attested IFLA efforts to fight for Privacy and claimed "our associations are the most powerful way to liaise closely with civil society groups in order to advocate national regulations in support of citizenship."

Wendy Mateo, current President of Ecuadorian Professional College for Librarians, Archivists and Museologists COBAME, described the legal overview in Ecuador on data protection, copyright, access to information laws and legal regulations on electronic signature.

Meanwhile, Luis García-López, academician at University of Salamaca, analyzed the multifaceted concept of Privacy and highlighted the common misconception when the notions on *Privacy* and *Freedom to access to information* are confronted, whereas are supplementary instead of believing opposite.

The roundtable no. 4 addressed the hyper-connectivity and new groups. Juan-Jose Calva talked about connectivity trends from perspectives of the scientific information user through Internet and Web 2.0. Alejandro Chávez also participated concerning the information diffusion through ICT and the impact on the formation of citizenship, he pointed out e-citizenship is included within in a number of government agendas.

Héctor Alfaro exposed the features of new groups involved in digital environment. In addition, he mentioned the multiculturalism has been adapted as pieces of a melting pot which are interacting *from their own reality*, but it can't be .exchanged.

These new groups have participated *from their own reality* and they are highly creative and prefer design. Therefore, *their own reality* is disassembled as *information*, which, in turn, is configured in bits.

Nora Dominguez addressed the situation of Central American migrants in the context of hyper-connected societies emphasizing the increasingly deportations. She described her survey findings on information needs of migrants with low levels of schooling and literacy.

In contrast with above, the President of Association of Graduated Librarians of Uruguay, Carina Patrón outlined the high connectivity, literacy and schooling rates in relation to overall population in Uruguay. She appointed a number of governmental programmes and citizens' initiatives to ensure public access to information. She also highlighted the increasingly IFLA efforts on this point to support through actions as the ABU attendance to BSLA Convening in São Paulo whereby its priorities were identified, as well as the workshop on digital tools for librarians sponsored by IFLA/LAC, which was held at the Spanish Cultural Center facilities in Montevideo, Uruguay.

In the last roundtable no. 5 on Global economy and new technologies, Salvador Gorbea analyzed the wording on IFLA trend 5 and the *Internet of the things* to submit a bibliometric study on IFLA Trend Report, whereby he looked forward to searching for prove and explain it through a quantitative approach and indicators.

Finally, the President-Elect of the Mexican Library Association AMBAC, Saúl Armendáriz outlined the evolution and future goals of the Information Industry in Mexico, as well as factors with impact, such as competitiveness, innovation and positions in protectionism.