

AILIS

Association of International Librarians and Information Specialists

Annual General Assembly 2004, 9 February, WHO

President's report

Executive committee in 2003

Jens Vigen	CERN European Organization for Nuclear Research	president	jens.vigen@cern.ch
Marielle Carlier	External Collaborator	webmaster	marielle.carlier@free.fr
Kristine Clara	ITU International Telecommunication Union	vice president	kristine.clara@itu.int
Carol Davies	UNOG United Nations	Secretary	daviesc@hotmail.com
Véronique Debellemanière	IBE International Bureau of Education	webmaster	v.debellemaniere@ibe.unesco.org
Laurel Dryden	ILO International Labour Organization	liaison with CERN/(DB,SNL) for the library science talks	dryden@ilo.org
Françoise Félicité	Independant	liaison with Swiss libraries/Swiss library associations	nfelicite@bluemail.ch
Kiyo Shibata	WHO World Health Organization	Treasurer	shibatak@who.int

The executive Committee has met monthly in 2003, except from in the months of July and August.

AILIS activities in 2003

It seems to be a good rhythm for the association to have the activities spread out across library science talks, luncheons and specialized courses with a frequency of one event per 3-4 weeks. In this way most members find something they are interested to participate in. Being an organization with an international orientation foreign speakers and trainers are rather easy to attract to come to Geneva. Some of this people will, or have already, contributed to major changes in our daily library operations. Most speakers have, in addition to being innovative and knowledgeable, also shown good presentation skills. The luncheons are still very useful for inter-connecting with other members and to learn more about the topic of the day. It is however a shame that we sometimes are too few to have a room for ourselves in the WHO Restaurant.

A special and highly important event this year was the participation in the pre-summit conference *Libraries @ the heart of the Information Society, Geneva, 3-4 November*, an attempt to bring together knowledgeable librarians, who are powerful advocates for the

potential for libraries in the rapidly developing information society, with representatives of the national delegations to the UN Summit on the Information Society itself. AILIS participated in organizing committee of the pre-summit and sponsored the press conference. In addition many of our members were involved individually.

The Executive Committee was ready to significantly subsidize two training days, MARC21 and general cataloguing, both courses ended however up being so popular that they more or less paid themselves. This is a clear signal showing that more such courses should be organized.

The yearly study day this year went to London. Unfortunately not as many members as we had hoped manage to participate to this tour. The visit to British Library was considered as a success while the Online exhibition seems to be passé with all companies now available on the web.

Since last year we have a few less individual members, a tendency we should take very seriously. Most events are open for everybody and often we see a peak of new inscriptions when we have a members-only-event. All members should get new colleagues to sign up and the Executive Committee should make a program that gets librarians and information specialist in Geneva to naturally inscribe them selves as members.

The Executive Committee is grateful to all institutional and individual members that have participated to make 2003 another successful year for the association.