

The end for UJISLAA

Unesco Journal of Information Science, Librarianship and Archives Administration (UJISLAA) has ceased publication.

This decision was taken at the end of 1983 due to severe financial limitations imposed on the Unesco Division of General Information Programme.

The cessation of the journal was of concern to many countries, including Australia, primarily because it was a basic journal for information on non-Western countries, was important for library education in all countries and was an excellent source of information on comparative studies. The articles it contained are unlikely to be published elsewhere.

In view of the importance of the journal, the LAA wrote to both Unesco and IFLA, expressing concern over its loss. Both bodies have replied and their letters are reprinted below for information.

Dear Ms Adams

Unesco Journal of Information Science, Librarianship and Archives Administration (UJISLAA)

In company with a number of subscribers and readers of the *Unesco Journal of Information Science, Librarianship and Archives Administration*, you have expressed your regret and concern at the decision to discontinue publication of this periodical.

I should stress that it was severe budgetary constraints which obliged the Director-General to submit his proposal to the General Conference, as also the necessity of making certain choices in order to take into account the need for a substantial renewal of Unesco's programme in relation to that of the previous biennium to reflect exactly the provisions of the Medium-Term Plan. Priority has thus been given in the ongoing programme to those activities which will contribute to the implementation of the Plan. This decision was debated in Commission IV during the 22nd session of the General Conference. The following is an extract of the report of Commission IV:

"With this in view, and under the existing budgetary constraints, a majority of speakers, while regretting that the publication of the *Unesco Journal for Information Science Librarianship and Archives Administration (UJISLAA)*, will be discontinued, agreed with the decision of the Director-General in this respect for the purpose of giving priority to operational and innovative activities to be carried out in Member States. Several delegates urged Unesco to study measures by which the main functions of this journal might be taken over by other professional publications in the field".

Negotiations on this matter began on 23 November 1983, as also a study of proposals submitted to Unesco by commercial publishers.

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We shall of course keep you informed about future developments concerning the journal and the results of our negotiations.

Jacques Tocattian
Director

Division of the General Information Programme,
UNESCO.

Dear Ms Adams:

In answer to your letter expressing concern about the fact that *UJISLAA* is being discontinued by Unesco, I inform you that IFLA had, of course, also its concerns. The matter was first discussed in an open Unesco forum during our Munich Conference, and thereafter by the Presidents and Secretaries General of IFLA and ICA at a meeting in London, and, finally, by some staff members of the three organizations.

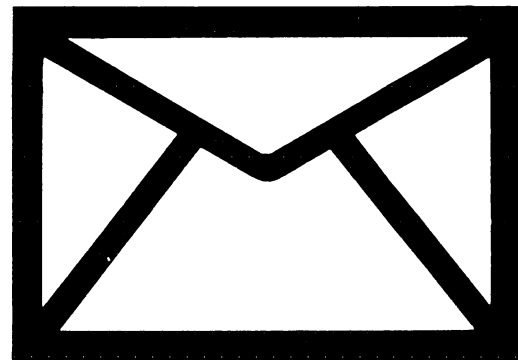
The point must be stressed that Unesco had to economize severely. In "our" field of work (Unesco PGI) it meant either the discontinuation of *UJISLAA* (economy of \$340,000 annually) or no library projects whatsoever. We all agreed that the latter would be worse.

We now are negotiating with the publisher of *IFLA Journal* to add 8 pages with Unesco news to each issue.

The idea of FID, IFLA and ICA starting a new journal was dropped because of the costs. The main virtue of *UJISLAA* was lying in the fact that it was widely distributed in the major languages. The latter will never be achieved by the NGOs.

Therefore I am afraid the Unesco journal will not be revived, but we are still trying to offer in any case some vehicle for Unesco news.

Margreet Wijnstroom
Secretary General of IFLA



Literary is the word

I should like, if I may, to rectify a misunderstanding which has occurred through a typographical error, in the LAA-NZLA Conference 1984 Registration Brochure. The session for which I am responsible has been listed with the word literacy in the title. This is incorrect and misleading. The correct title is, *The Myth and the Reality: Libraries and Literary Standards*.

The abstract I have provided to the LAA Conference Committee makes the content of my paper quite clear. Although I am interested in literacy I shall not be referring to this matter but to the standard of what is placed in libraries and the problems of censorship, selection, etc. which relate to them.

S.L. Ryan
State Librarian, Queensland

NLA Fellowship Awards

THE FIRST AWARDS to be made under the National Library Fellowships scheme were announced on 1 June.

The recipients are Professor Howard Fry, of James Cook University, Townsville, Professor Neville Meaney, of the University of Sydney, and Ms Helen Topliss, an independent scholar, at present working at the Australian National University (ANU) as a visiting fellow.

Professor Fry, who is associate professor of history at James Cook University, specialising in Philippines and Pacific History, plans to complete two research projects, 'The Philippine Struggle for Independence' and 'The Eastern Passage and Trade with China'.

Professor Meaney, associate professor of history at the University of Sydney, proposes to complete research on volume two of his *History of Australian Defence and Foreign Policy, 1914-23*. Volume one was published in 1976.

Ms Topliss will research exploration and the way it influenced artists' views of Australia in the 19th century. Currently she is preparing an exhibition of works from the Library's Rex Nan Kivell collection on the theme 'The Landscape of Discovery'. The exhibition is associated with two conferences on 'Landscape and the Arts' which she is organising for the ANU's Humanities Research Centre. Ms Topliss proposes to take up her Library fellowship between December 1984 and June 1985.

The Director-General of the NLA, Mr Harrison Bryan, said the Library Council was delighted at the response to the fellowship scheme and with the standard of applications.

Details of 1985 Fellowships are elsewhere in this issue of *InCite*.

With this issue of *InCite* Victorian readers will also receive an insert from Freelance Library and Information Services.

Books for review in *InCite* or the Australian Library Journal should be sent to the Publications Officer, LAA, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo, NSW 2007.

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