

FIL

Forum for Interlending

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NEWSLETTER

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EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP

In January Interlibrary Loans Librarians from the London area gathered at Queen Mary and Westfield College for an Exchange of Experience Workshop.

It was run on the tried and tested format of speakers from public, academic and special libraries and then group discussions.

We were welcomed by the Librarian, Brian Murphy and the three speakers were Nicola Best from the Royal Society of Chemistry, Lesley Rogers from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Suzanne Cornthwaite the Project Officer for the London end of the LAMDA project.

After a very pleasant lunch break we split into two groups.

Julie Rudland from BLDSC Customer Services visited both groups and answered our questions and concerns and also took on board some of our queries to take back to Boston Spa. The discussions were wide ranging and quite a number were common to all sectors.

Papers from the three speakers follow.

If you are able to host a workshop in your library please contact any of the committee members.

Janet Moul; University of Reading

WANTED

The FIL committee is in desperate need of new blood. Owing to pressures from changes to structures in both the academic and public libraries, three of our members have had to resign.

Three more are due to retire at the July AGM. We would welcome some new input particularly from the special libraries area as they are not represented on the Committee at present.

Any one who would like more information please contact any member of the Committee.

Come on you youngsters – it's very good for the PDR!

LAMDA ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT DELIVERY PROJECT

Background

The London And Manchester Document Access project is a one year project to establish and develop a system to supply journal articles through rapid electronic means. It is one of several projects which form the Electronic Libraries (eLib) Programme which was established in response to the Follett report. The aim of the project is to try and improve access to information available in other libraries through a fast and efficient service within both Manchester and the London M25 ring area.

Staff

The project employs both existing and new members of library and information staff. Each institution has a clerical member of staff to oversee all the sites dealing with Ariel requests under the supervision of the two Project Officers, who co-ordinate all the participating sites within each city, reporting directly to the Project Manager based in Manchester.

Participants

Initially the project was set up between the five main academic libraries in Manchester who form CALIM (Consortium of Academic Libraries in Manchester) and four academic libraries in London: the London School of Economics, King's College, London, University College, London and the University of Westminster. These formed the core group of libraries for the project and they act as both requesting and supplying libraries. Since the project went live Queen Mary and Westfield College have also joined as a requesting library and both the University of North London and the School of Oriental and African Studies are due to join soon on the same basis.

Progress to date

The one year project commenced on 1st August 1995 and after an initial period of setting up the equipment and co-ordinating procedures it went live on 30th October 1995. The first two months of the project, once it went live, were seen as a trial period in which equipment could be tested and procedures tried out and modified with experi-

ence. After Christmas the project was opened up and all libraries in the M25 consortium were invited to participate following the project launch on 10th January. The intention is that most libraries with more specialist subject areas not already covered within the project may also be invited to be suppliers. The introduction of new participants will be phased over a period of time to avoid putting a strain on existing staff and equipment.

Equipment

As the project is funded for one year there was no possibility of developing new software so it was decided to use the RLG Ariel software which has already been extensively tried and tested in the US, this uses the Internet to transmit documents. Each work station is comprised of a PC with a scanner and laser printer attached (if a site is a requester only then they do not need a scanner – they send requests by fax) Many of the libraries are multi-sited therefore have several sets of equipment and have also found Ariel useful for intersite loans.

Operation

The project has set itself a target of trying to satisfy requests with a 48 hour turnaround time. So far the response time has been good and when the 48 hour limit has not been possible most requests have been satisfied within 3 days. All the Ariel procedures have been specifically set up to try to fit in with existing ILL procedures as closely as possible to minimise disruption. Each site has a project manual containing a variety of support information. They continue to use the same ILL forms as before and each form has been checked to ensure the copyright declaration is adequate. For the time being each site will keep their declaration forms until they are recalled.

Requesting

Ariel can be used in conjunction with any ILL system and procedures are designed to be compatible with existing ILL procedures. When a request is received each site begins by searching for the requested item in their own city using the local union list of serials. If there are no holdings then the search moves to the second city using their union list of serials. If a location is still not found then the request is forwarded to BLDSC.

If a request is located at a site within the project then a request is made. ILL staff continue to enter details on to the ILL system as before but add a tag to show it is an Ariel request. When all the details are entered on to the automated system a screen print is taken and scanned into the Ariel system and sent instantly to the library holding the journal. The receiving library will print off the request then retrieve the item off the shelf and bring it to the Ariel equipment. The article is then scanned and sent back to the requesting library, with a copy of the original request, to be received and printed off on a high quality laser printer.

The Future

Although the project is only being funded for one year the intention is that it should become self funding after that period. At present the charge per article is £3 and it is expected that this may alter when the project officially ends but any increase should be minimal. The project looks forward to encouraging more libraries to become members over time and improve access to external information for its readers through fast high quality service at low cost.

Suzanne Cornthwaite; Project Officer London

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY LIBRARY

The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) was formed in 1980 from the Chemical Society, founded in 1841 and the Royal Institute of Chemistry founded in 1877. The Society for Analytical Chemistry and the Faraday Society previously merged with the Chemical Society.

The RSC is a learned society, a professional body and a publishing house. We have approximately 45,000 members worldwide, representing industry and commerce, R & D, and academia. The LIC has about 155 Corporate Members ranging from major chemical/pharmaceutical companies to universities, consultancies and small companies. The LIC holds approximately 700 current journal titles, and 20,000 monograph titles and reference works including data handbooks, guides and dictionaries. It has a growing collection of CD-Rom databases. The LIC started to offer a fee based commercial

service in 1993, which mainly serves small and medium sized companies who are not Corporate Members. Individual Society members benefit from free or discounted services. Contact Nigel Lees, Senior Marketing Officer, on 0171-440-3377 for details on the commercial information service.

The LIC operates a rapid document delivery service from its own journal stock. For items not held in the LIC they may be obtained via interlibrary loans. The LIC staff pride themselves on being able to track down difficult to find items. Although the LIC does few ILL in comparison to some other libraries (around 1000 a year) an automated service is used. At present, the LIC is using ARTEmail, directly to the BLDSC, although the new version of AIM which uses ARTTel2 is just about to be loaded. The RSC has an acquisitions department at Thomas Graham House in Cambridge. This department primarily supports the production of the RSC's databases and abstract journals. Customers who want any articles from these databases are directed to the LIC which will liaise with Cambridge staff to satisfy requests.

With a history dating back over 150 years, the LIC has had ample opportunity to bring together many special collections. These include many donations from distinguished chemists such as Sir Henry Roscoe. It has a large collection of images which includes portraits of distinguished chemists from the 19th century. These collections of prints, photographs, negatives or transparencies are made available and are often used in lectures or text books. The LIC also holds archives and artefacts of the founding societies including minutes of meetings, and historical manuscript material including personal letters and laboratory notebooks from distinguished chemists such as Justus Von Liebig. The reproduction and research service is open to members of the RSC and bonafide researchers. If you are interested in the reproduction and research service contact Nicola Best, Senior Library Assistant on 0171-440-3373.

If you require further details of any of our services please contact:

The Library and Information Centre
The Royal Society of Chemistry

Burlington House
Piccadilly
London W1V 0BN

Telephone +44(0) 171 437 8656
Fax +44(0) 171 287 9798
Email library@rsc.org
URL <http://chemistry.rsc.org/rsc/library.htm>

Nicola Best; Royal Society of Chemistry

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA INTERLIBRARY LOANS

Kensington and Chelsea is a small borough in the centre of London. It covers an area of five square miles and serves a population of 151,500 through six branches and a mobile library. We also provide a housebound service and a Schools Library Service. All the static sites are connected on-line to the Dynix circulation system which is a Unix based system.

1994/5 figures show that we had 96,766 registered users who submitted 30,239 reservations with an average supply time of 29 days for items that were not in stock. This may seem a fairly low number of reservations but there is a reason why. Our bookfund for 1994/5 was £645,000 so we are able to purchase quite a lot of stock to satisfy the needs of our readers. The borough is small so we are able to run a van service to every branch once a day. We only take reservations for items that are not on the shelves throughout the system or that cannot be found on the shelves. If the book is shown to be in at another branch a phone call is made and that book is put on the van to arrive on the next weekday, there is no charge for this service and it is not called a reservation. If books supplied in this way were included in our statistics both the number of requests and the speed of supply for items in stock would be increased.

The items which are to go through the interloans system arrive in two ways: either on the reservation card which the reader has filled in if they are out of print or they have not been traced by the branch in a bibliography, or as a printout off the system. The

latter comes from the Acquisitions Librarian when he has decided not to purchase an item for a reservation either because it is too specialised or too expensive. We handled about 1,500 requests last year, mainly monographs, quite a lot of photocopies and a growing number of theses. Each item is checked for details where necessary and then a barcode is allocated to it to enable us to put each one on the Dynix system as a 'fast add' consisting of the author and brief title. Unfortunately there is no Interloans package on Dynix so in effect the requested item is issued to an administrative ticket which enables the branches to put a reservation on for the reader and allows them to see that something is happening to it. If there are any particularly bad delays, such as long waiting list at BLDSC, we can put a note on the entry.

We use various bibliographies on CD-Rom and some on microfiche to verify details. VISCOUNT is also used for the verification of details and to find locations. With the results of this, the decision is then made as to where to apply. We have subscriptions to Law Notes and the London Library, so where appropriate we use them.

VISCOUNT is used as our main source of messaging to other LASER libraries, West Midlands libraries and the British Library. If the book is listed as being held at any other library in the region we put them on the rota and VISCOUNT does the rest. Quite often the book turns up within a very short time without us having to do any more to it. The most impressive result was when I messaged one afternoon and the book turned up on the LASER van the next day! Congratulations Hammersmith! Every time we do something to a request we reissue the book on Dynix, if there are not many locations we reissue for a shorter period. Once the period is up the system thinks the book is 'overdue' and a message appears which reminds us to check what is happening. Obviously not everything comes to us from LASER libraries, if there are no locations in LASER we will try the West Midlands libraries or the British Library via VISCOUNT. The BL form which is generated when we try Boston Spa is then used to try libraries outside of VISCOUNT where necessary.

Once the book arrives we put details on to Dynix to show when it is due back and who the book is on loan from plus the classmark. The book is then discharged and the circulation system tells us which branch to send the book to. On reaching the branch the book is discharged again and the reader notified by letter that the book is available. Having the book on Dynix is useful as we can keyword search if we cannot find our paper work and also we can use the keyword search to find out what books we have on loan from another library if there are any queries. The main problem I have found is with keeping track of anything that goes overdue and with stopping staff from issuing the book for longer than the period allowed. Most of the staff are very good and obey the rules we have laid down but we do get the occasional maverick!

Should the book go overdue, the reader receives overdue letters generated by the system in the same way as for normal stock. The details of the book are on the overdue so there is little problem with them. Phone calls are sometimes necessary if it is a short loan and I never cease to be amazed at the speed at which British Library books are returned if a fine of over £20 is mentioned!

10,556 incoming requests were received in 1994/5, of which we lent 4,203. They mainly reach us via VISCOUNT, the post, phone or fax. These are checked on the catalogue and if the book is on the shelves of the Central Library we go and fetch it ourselves. If the book is listed as on the shelf at another branch we reserve it on an administrative ticket which generates a request at the branch the next morning. Some of our special collections are held in the reference libraries at Central and Chelsea so these have to be checked as well. Some of the material requested is reference material and is not normally for loan, especially if it is in current stock. We message replies to those requests received on VISCOUNT as soon as we are able, the majority are replied to the same day. We only reply that the book is supplied when we actually have the book in our department as we are a centralised system.

I have been taking part in the ILL standards working party in LASER and we are trying

to keep to the standard of replying to 80% of requests within five days. I am pleased to say that we are reaching the target and often touch 90%. The books for loan are issued on the Dynix system to the library it was requested by, usually for three months, shorter for reference material, and then packed for the post or LASER van by our porters. We do keep the paper work which we have received but it is only kept in a daily envelope to refer to in case of queries. It was my intention to get rid of it completely at first but we kept on getting enquiries for the BL form number when we sent overdue and there was no way for us to put them on the system. It is very much for last resort and does not take up to much time to maintain, the records are thrown out after approximately six months.

As you can see by the figures I have quoted we lend far more books than we borrow. This is partly due to having a good book stock due to generous book funds in the past, purchasing to satisfy most of our readers requests and endeavouring to meet our users needs. The requests that do come through to me can be quite interesting and challenging and involve the whole range of materials.

*Lesley Rogers;
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea*

ASLIB GUIDE TO COPYRIGHT

Oppenheim, C., Phillips, J., Wall, R. (Eds.). *The Aslib Guide to Copyright*. London, UK: Aslib,

1995. ISBN 0-85142-311-6 stlg124. ISSN 1353-1530 stlg70 p.a.

A comprehensive, ongoing publication dealing with this ever changing area has been long overdue. The looseleaf format lends itself to this purpose, together with an ASCII (DOS) version provided on disc makes it very user friendly.

As for content, comprehensive is the watchword. I will list the contents to illustrate:

Nature of copyright
Media categories and copyright duration

Owners rights and restricted acts
User permissions and guidelines
Administration of rights
International aspects
Problem areas and current issues
Documents UK
Documents EU
Legal cases
Bibliography
Contacts
Forms
Glossary
Index

Not only is the explanation of the law full and easy to follow (with Glossary and Forms), the UK & EU Documents section back this up with copies of the legislation, including Statutory Instruments and Council Directives and case law. Other relevant areas covered are licensing schemes and areas of law under dispute. The latter covers electrocopying, contents pages, implied terms, charges for copying, declaration forms and much more. The Bibliography and Contacts are extremely useful for following up problem areas, with the index providing fast access to relevant entries.

Given the nature of copyright law, delays in updates are inevitable. 3 updates are due between March and June 1996, the first of which will cover case law. From June 1996 there will be updates covering international issues & future legislation; this will include Electronic copyright & related rights Green Paper COM(95) 382 final (Brussels, 19.07.1995) and hopefully the Commissions Legal Advisory Board reply to this Green Paper. The impact of global network on copyright legislation or enforcement and World Trade Agreement (Uruguay Round) on TRIPS (trade related intellectual property) will be also be discussed in this context.

The delays in updates are unfortunate, though unsurprising. The editors are attempting to rectify this by running 2 update years over 18 months. One area causing delay seems to be disagreement between the editors as to legal interpretations. Given that there is a specific section Problem areas and current issues, these differing opinions could be usefully aired, for instruction and entertainment of readers (yes, law can be fun!). As for recommendation, if you or your users

need to check on broader aspects of copyright this publication should definitely be on your shelves with its updates.

Mark Perkins 19 February 1996

THE BROADVISION REPORT

Introduction

The past couple of years have seen the publication of a range of important reports – Follett, Anderson, Aslib and the Apt Review, these will be familiar to many. The latest to appear will be the 'BroadVision Report', compiled by the BroadVision consultancy and commissioned by the Department of National Heritage (DNH) in 1994. The official title is Library and Information Plans: Review and Further Initiatives and as the name suggests, it was intended to assess progress by Library and Information Plans (LIPs) to date and to look to the future. The official aims were: to review the concept, process and development of LIPs; to identify and analyse the benefits and effects of LIPs on the library and information network; and to assess the prospects for LIPs and make recommendations for their future management and funding. The work was undertaken from March to June 1994 and consisted of desk research, a survey of LIP managers, a further survey of LIP member and non-member organisations, case studies and personal interviews.

Background

The LIP concept was the brainchild of the late Royston Brown and was embodied in the LISC report The future development of libraries and information services 3: Progress through planning and partnership (FDL3), published back in 1986. The central tenet of the report was that, within a geographical area, all types of library and information provider should plan their services strategically and that the local authority should take the lead. The cooperation should cover a wide range of activities, not be limited to interlending and should be guided by a 5-year plan, or 'written statement'. It is these four elements: involvement of all information providers, strategic planning, the written statement and the variety of cooperative activities which made LIPs different from the older library cooperatives. Following publi-

cation local authorities were approached by the BLR&DD, on behalf of the then Office of Arts and Libraries, to take part in pilot studies to produce the written statements and since then many LIPs have not only written plans but implemented them. The movement now covers geographical areas from Wandsworth to Wales.

Sectoral LIPS

Recent years have seen the introduction of a new breed of LIP based on subject rather than geographical location. So far they have been set up for health (various regional LIPs), music, law, visual arts, sports and development. The latest in preparation is aerospace, with Cranfield University making the running. Unlike the geographical LIPs, the new Library and Information Commission has indicated that it may provide some direct financial support for these 'sectoral' LIPs.

LIPLINC Panel

The LIP movement is coordinated by the LIPLINC Panel, a panel of the Library and Information Cooperation Council (LINC), which itself is charged with responsibility for LIPs by the DNH. The Panel provides advice and guidance, undertakes research, organises conferences and produces a newsletter.

Findings and recommendations

Altogether the BroadVision Report has 23 findings and recommendations which are here grouped to make it easier to absorb them.

Management

BroadVision considered it essential to have a committed manager and I am sure that this would be supported by most current LIP managers. The term 'committed' should be taken in 2 contexts – a passionate advocate of the LIP concept and someone whose sole job is to administer the LIP. I would add that a commitment to the LIP by the manager's parent organisation is also vital, together with considerable support and ideas from a spread of members.

The role of the LIP manager as a 'honest broker' was endorsed and I feel that this is more vital than ever with the growth in competition between LIP members. It was

also considered important that managers be senior enough to gain access to the right channels and be seen as independent information professionals.

Formal agreements between LIP members were recommended in the FDL3 report, however, these have not emerged other than in the guise of Library Agreements. BroadVision suggest that development work on these agreements needs to be supported at the national level.

Five-year business plans were considered essential. This may be true, however long-term planning for LIPs is very difficult when some are uncertain of their future beyond the end of the financial year.

Cooperation and Planning

The main success of LIPs has been an improvement in the information infrastructure, however the benefits of this cooperation have been ill-expressed. Many of these benefits are intangible and difficult to measure.

If LIPs are to be seen as distinct from other cooperative structures, the strategic planning model must be developed. I believe that one of the reasons that strategic planning has not been adopted to the extent originally envisaged is that LIPs are being pushed into money-making ventures to survive – and organisations cannot justify paying for 'planning' but rather require specific services and products such as courses, visits and publications.

The survey of LIP members found that they are more likely to refer to public libraries for their information requirements than non-members, which should be an encouragement to local authorities to support LIPs.

Local government reorganisation provides both threats and opportunities. The threat comes from the possible withdrawal of financial support for LIPs where previously larger authorities which could afford, and had the will, to support a LIP are replaced by smaller authorities, run by managers with no historical commitment. However, BroadVision considered that LIPs could provide starting points for future cooperative arrangements between new authorities.

Membership Benefits

As already mentioned, much LIP activity is intangible, and more work is required on methods of evaluating the benefits. A baseline for performance measurement techniques and standards is required, set against a business plan. This is something that LIPs themselves already highlighted at their second conference in 1994.

BroadVision was surprised that the surveys showed that only 8% of members joined because of the financial benefits, whilst over 60% thought that the LIP had met its original function. It is suggested that there is an unclear understanding of the LIP concept and benefits must be analysed and presented better for membership to grow. The report also suggests that subscriptions may be artificially low. Whilst this may be the case, I personally doubt the ability of any LIP to successfully raise its rates in the current economic climate.

Sectoral LIPs

BroadVision endorses support from Government and the LIP movement for sectoral LIPs, particularly in the early stages and recommends that the DNH should continue to support potential new sectoral LIPs, ensuring equitable partnerships. Nationally important material should be supported by central government. Unlike geographical LIPs, where BroadVision feels that local authorities should take the lead, independent control of sectoral LIPs is thought to be more effective than domination by one member institution. It is encouraging that the Library and Information Commission (LIC) has indicated its willingness to support sectoral LIPs.

Competition versus Cooperation

The line between competition and cooperation in the marketplace has moved, however BroadVision consider that they can exist together comfortably. Also the changing nature of the marketplace makes the honest broker role of LIPs stronger. However new initiatives such as CCT, Business Links, formal agreements and tighter budgets lead to hesitation and confusion. Nevertheless the case for cooperation remains.

Funding and Further Research

The key recommendations all fall under this

heading.

Central government should continue to fund the LIPLINC Panel so that it can become more advisory, provide practical assistance, set guidelines and highlight good practice. This I heartily endorse. As a LIP manager, the Panel has been a lifeline to me, enabling me to feel part of a movement rather than an isolated individual.

Whilst LIPs which have progressed beyond the written stage should not rely on central government funding, government support for strategic planning is needed. (I am not sure that I understand the difference.) As geographical LIPs should not expect central government funding they need to be more innovative and seek grants from other sources.

The report states that public libraries should remain the driving force. The original concept considered that the local authority should take the lead, and this is not quite the same thing, as the LIP for Leicestershire has shown, being based in the Chief Executive's office and benefitting from access to departments across the Council.

The DNH is currently looking at regional issues and the BroadVision recommendation that the DNH/ LIC should undertake research into whether strategic planning is best conducted at the regional level dovetails with this. This research may point to a single form of cooperation and planning or a 2-tier system of local cooperation and regional planning. I feel that there should be 3 tiers: local, regional and national, and possibly even international.

Perhaps the most controversial recommendation is that the DNH should finance research into the establishment of joint boards for the provision of public library services, with suggested key principles and catchment areas, taking into account geography, economics and demographics. If such boards were to be set up LIPs may have a part to play, however it doesn't seem appropriate for a call for these boards to come from the LIP movement.

A recommendation that I can wholeheartedly endorse is that the DNH should

provide developmental funding, probably now through the Commission, for practical pilot studies of national interest, including needs audits, performance measurement, electronic networking, library agreements and awareness of the importance of information – most of which the LIPLINC Panel has already identified as priorities for research.

Conclusion

To sum up, the achievements of LIPs have been worthwhile and LIPs have had an impact on the information infrastructure, although this impact has been slower than hoped for. LIPs need to evolve if they are to benefit in the changing information environment – as do all organisations – and whilst the concept is still valid, elements need progress in practice. The final recommendation includes the suggestion that a change of name is desirable as the phrase Library and Information Plan is unhelpful. Any suggestions would be gratefully received!

Barbara Buckley

Based on a paper presented at Collaborating on the future for library and information services in the West Midlands, Birmingham, January 1996.

Copies of the BroadVision report will be available shortly from Information North, Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE (0191-232 0877).

Barbara Buckley is Information Manager of the South West London Information Network. The views expressed in the article are those of the author and not those of LINC, the LIPLINC Panel or SWIFT.

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

We would like to receive news from the regions, particularly of any new co-operative initiatives, union catalogues, etc. – anything that may make the Interlibrary Loan Librarians job any easier!

Please let the editor have any material you would like included in the next Newsletter.

NEWS FROM LINC (LIBRARY AND

INFORMATION CO-OPERATION COUNCIL)

The new honorary officers are:

- Chair Roy Collis, County Librarian of Buckinghamshire
- Vice-Chair Frances Hendrix, Director of LASER
- Treasurer Barbara Buckley, Manager of SWIFT
- Secretary John Blagden, Chief Librarian of Cranfield University
- Executive Secretary is Don Kennington of Capital Planning
- Information, 91 High Street, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0BH

Tel/Fax 01749 813385

THE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION COMMISSION AND LINC: DEFINING A RELATIONSHIP

Library and Information Commission Chair Matthew Evans and Executive Secretary, Stuart Brewer attended the LINC AGM. LINC Council members were given a short presentation by Stuart Brewer in which he reviewed LINC's relationship to the Commission and indicated the Commission's views on the priority areas for LINC in the immediate future.

In 1995/96 the Commission is a major funder of LINC and LIPLINC to which it is making grants previously awarded by the Department of National Heritage. Given this formal financial relationship, Stuart Brewer described LINC as 'a partner or agent for the Commission. It is a body to which the Commission can look for material support, information and expertise in meeting the remit of advising government.'

He pinpointed two areas for particular LINC consideration: co-operation in the light of the findings of the APT Review, commissioned by LINC and published last year, and

the development of library and information services at regional level.

Referring to the APT Review's opinion that the practice of librarians in the field of co-operation falls short of the respect for the ideal, he said: 'It seems to me that we should ask ourselves more frequently, and more robustly, 'co-operation for what?' In his own view: 'the purpose of co-operation is the development of library and information services'. He suggested the challenge was 'to set out a strategy, targets, monitoring and evaluation techniques for co-operative initiatives'.

On regional development, he said: 'We as librarians and information managers need to debate the issues, come to conclusions about the opportunities for the development of library and information services at a regional level, and go for it. The time is ripe.'

He looked forward to the seminar being organised by LINC for the DNH at York in February 1996, and to clear recommendations resulting from it. In the meantime, he suggested that LINC consider how the development of library and information services at strategic level is being addressed in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Similar opportunities in England may exist, given the framework of Regional Library Systems (RLSs), for which potentially comparable structure exist for museums, the arts and other fields.

He also referred to a recent consultative paper on Regional Government by the North of England Assembly of local authorities (NEA), which envisaged a stronger and more democratic level of government which would bring together the various existing regional development agencies. He believed that Information North, a development agency based on the Northern RLS, could be part of that structure.

New LINC chairman Roy Collis comments: 'As a proactive organisation, LINC is in process of drawing up a programme of action in the light of the APT Review findings and recommendations. Like the Commission, we await with anticipation the seminar on regional issues, which we regard as a crucial event in the evolution of policy

on the development of library and information services.'

(Taken from a LINC Press Release)

LIBRARIAN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

1996 is the twentieth anniversary of the original launch of the Librarians' Christian Fellowship and members of the LCF will be using the year to take stock of the past and prepare for the future.

The main focus for the year's activities will be the Conference planned for Saturday 20th April 1996 in the Quiet Room, Connaught Hall, 41 Tavistock Square, London, WC1 from 10.30.a.m. The

title for this event is 'Now we are twenty: Librarians' Christian Fellowship Anniversary Conference.' Dr. John Andrews and Richard Waller, President and Chairman respectively of the Fellowship, will be leading a session entitled 'Where next for the LCF?' which will review the past progress and future prospects of the organization. Guest Speaker Gospatric Home will describe his work as founder and managing director of both the Christian Resources Exhibition and the Library Resources Exhibition.

This link with the Library Resources Exhibition will be maintained between 4-6 June 1996 when LCF will be providing a stand at this year's Exhibition, a major trade fair for librarians, to be held at the NEC, Birmingham.

Other plans for the year include a drive to attract new members, a 'new look' for the periodicals LCF Newsletter and Christian Librarian and a new anthology Issues in Librarianship 2: The Debate Continues which will bring together some of the most memorable articles from the past two decades of LCF.

More information from LCF Secretary
*Graham Hedges, A.L.A., 34 Thurlestone Avenue,
Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex, IG3 9DU
0181 599 1310 (home); 0181 870 3100 (work)*

COMMON PRICE EXPERIMENT FOR INTER-REGIONAL LOANS BETWEEN LASER, WMRLS AND GWENT ON VISCOUNT

Readers of the FIL newsletter will have seen the many developments currently being undertaken by LASER and within VISCOUNT to improve the quality of interlending services. In order to maximise access to the huge range of resources available on VISCOUNT, a twelve month experiment between LASER, WMRLS and Gwent was started in July 1995 to establish a pricing and accounting mechanism for inter-regional loans (ie. interlending of materials between libraries in different regions). The practise of using BLDSC form numbers for inter-regional loans was seen by many VISCOUNT users as an impediment to making inter-regional requests. It was felt that a more independent pricing mechanism should be developed, which could be implemented on the centralized VISCOUNT inter-library message transaction store. No criticism of BLDSC is implied in this decision, but it was considered illogical to have BLDSC set the price for ILL transactions in which it played no part.

The charging mechanism established for inter-regional loans for this experiment works as follows:

- instead of adding a BLDSC form number to VISCOUNT ILL messages for requests between LASER libraries, WMRLS libraries, and Gwent, VISCOUNT applies a regional form numbers and registers that an inter-regional request has been made;
- VISCOUNT records statistics of items supplied and/or received for ILL transactions between LASER, WMRLS and Gwent;
- the supplying library is credited with £3.00 plus VAT and the library receiving the item is charged £3.00 plus VAT;
- a statement providing details of items received and items supplied, together with a credit and debit account is pro-

duced for libraries every six months.

The VISCOUNT system also provides for academic or special libraries which cannot participate in this experiment and invoices reflecting BLDSC form prices are still produced for materials obtained on inter-regional loans.

The experiment will be reviewed in March 1996 when a decision will be taken as to whether this method of charging should continue. Inter-regional requests have increased on VISCOUNT since the experiment started.

The growing use of networked interlending request services and electronic document delivery will bring the issues and options for charging to the fore-front in the next few years – a good topic perhaps for discussion at a FIL Conference or Workshop.

Peter Smith; Deputy Director, LASER; 2 January 1996

'THE MORE WE ARE TOGETHER ...' ONE PROFESSION, ONE VOICE.

LASER's Annual General Meeting took place at headquarters in Wapping on Oct 26th 1995 and once again the formal business of the day was followed by presentations from key figures in the world of librarianship.

In an entertaining speech, Melvyn Barnes, President of the Library Association, outlined the problems and possibilities for libraries today. He claimed that libraries must emphasise their similarities, not their differences, and that, in facing the same difficulties, we must draw our strength from co-operation. He touched upon the effects of Local Government Reorganisation, when the creation of new authorities could mean that some fail to appreciate their place in the national network and restricted funding could result in a reluctance to share. He declared that the creation of hyperlibraries outside the public library network would be wasteful. Instead, the government should fund the large central libraries which already act as regional centres and so develop them further in this role. While continuing to play

a custodial part in retaining printed records, which have an historical significance, the public library should be a key element in accessing the superhighway, breaching the gap between the info-rich and the info-poor, and helping to create an infrastructure for all types of library to communicate and carry out operations electronically.

Melvyn Barnes then concluded his presentation and was followed by Matthew Evans, Chair of the Library and Information Commission. Speaking as a relative newcomer, he cast a fresh and controversial light on the library scene, stressing the need for very positive action and a united profession to meet the demands of the future. He asked which of the diverse voices of the profession will be heard through the Commission. Although pockets of excellence are to be found, there is no national vision about I.T. in the public library, he declared. The library remains the centre of knowledge but it is not ready to cope with the new world. The same agendas continue to be debated at library conferences, reports are compiled but no action follows and fragmented efforts result in duplicated work. He stated that a national business plan is needed to deal with funding and the help of the user should be sought in raising the money. In respect of the superhighway, being on the network is sometimes regarded as an end in itself but the question to be asked is 'What should be put into libraries to meet the user's requirements?' In drawing to a close he stressed that the Commission is very keen to play an active role in respect of its findings.

Members and visitors were an appreciative audience and questions followed the presentation before everyone adjourned to enjoy the music and refreshments which made up the rest of the event

Yvonne Puttee; LASER

COPYRIGHT UPDATE

While some of the following may seem of little relevance to some readers, with the moves towards electronic document supply within the academic (Elib projects), public (Project EARL) and special (current practice, Uncover, OCLC) sectors, life will change

rapidly.

In the past year the European Union (EU) has taken decisions in three areas which will affect UK copyright law which will affect document supply:

Extension of copyright duration Directive No. 93/98/EEC (O.J.no.L 290, 24.11.93, p.9)

Database protection Directive No.95/C 288/02 (O.J.no.C 288, 30.10.95, p.14)

Electronic copyright & related rights Green Paper COM(95) 382 final (Brussels, 19.07.1995)

[Directives are effectively EU legislation with which Member states must comply by amending their own law; a Green Paper is a discussion document on which the Council of Ministers base their decision, which then become Directives.]

The duration of copyright for literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works will be extended from the present life of author plus 50 years after death to life plus 70 years (a similar change affects film copyright). This legislation will be retrospective, thus bringing back into protection works in which copyright had expired. Also, if a person publishes a previously unpublished work in which copyright had expired, they will receive 25 years copyright protection. These changes are being made in UK law via a Statutory Instrument. These changes have been made in order to harmonise Copyright law throughout the EU, but this has been done by increasing protection to the level of the state with the most protection (in this case Germany). As I will discuss below, the EU seems to consider copyright purely in terms of economic profit.

The database directive restricts protection to the selection &/or arrangement of contents as opposed to the material itself, even if the material is covered by copyright in its own right.

However, a 'sui generis' right will prohibit unauthorised extraction or utilisation of the whole or substantial part of the database for 25 years (leading to similar problems of interpretation as current UK fair dealing

exceptions). This Directive was implemented because in some Member States only works with some originality or creativity are protected by copyright, so that factual databases were not covered (eg. telephone directories, bibliographic databases). One problem with this Directive is that there is no requirement that database entries should be date stamped. Thus, users may not know which items are protected and which are not; this will effectively mean protection for the whole database until 25 years after its last entry.

The Green Paper (Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society) has probably the most far reaching implications for electronic document supply and wider use of the Internet. In case readers think that my views are especially radical, I will also quote from the European Commissions Legal Advisory Board's (LAB) 'Reply to the Green paper on Copyright and Related rights in the Information Society'. The Green Paper (GP) makes almost no mention of fair use rights, emphasises that 'a high level of protection is maintained' [GP p.6] and only pays lip service to users of services. The latter are seen solely in terms of 'individual consumers' [GP p.3] not as participants in the 'Information Society'; traditionally the Internet has been a two-way communication medium leading to readers becoming publishers, not purely a vehicle for 'video on demand' [GP p.20, 22]. Electronic intellectual property legislation is seen as important 'primarily because of the need to move goods and services can move freely' [GP p.10]. Due to the ease of making and distributing perfect copies of works via the Internet the 'danger of piracy and improper use without payment' [GP p.28] is the driving force behind the recommendations. The view of copyright as a vehicle for promoting the development of culture and science is lost to be replaced by 'two fundamental factors....the protection of rights holders ...supply the service with maximum economic efficiency' [GP p.41]. 'The LAB observes that the Green Paper has been written with the clear purpose of strengthening the protection of intellectual property' [LAB p.2]

More specifically, 'The digitization of works or other protected matter should generally fall under the reproduction right, as should

such things as loading on to the central memory of a computer.'

'The fact that private copying in certain Member States means that some operators will be afraid to allow access to their service there.' [GP p.52] 'But where there is the technical means to limit or prevent private copying, there is no further justification for what amounts to a system of statutory licensing and equitable remuneration.' [GP p.50] '...a degree of harmonisation will be needed to resolve these problems. The precise response will depend on the technical scope for controlling reproduction, and especially private copying' [GP p.52]. Given that current use of the Internet relies on implied license', whereby placing documents onto the net' implies that users have the right at least to read and download to hard disk for personal use, the effect would be chilling. 'Thus, for example, sending electronic mail, browsing' the Internet and viewing a digital file would become restricted acts... ..the catalogue of restricted acts would be extended ... Such a use right is antithetical to the traditional principle that copyright and neighbouring rights do not protect against acts of consumption or reception of information... According to LAB, the broad interpretation of the reproduction right, as advanced by the Commission, would mean carrying the copyright monopoly one step too far' [LAB p.7]. If followed, the above will effectively spell the end of fair dealing exceptions as information moves into the electronic environment, ie. copyright payment or no access. 'The LAB regrets that the all-important issue of copyright exemptions is treated somewhat haphazardly in the Green Paper....The inflexibility of current platform specific limitations combined with the expanding right of reproduction threatens to upset the delicate balance between copyright protection and user freedoms' [p.9], 'Rights and exemptions are intertwined; if the scope of rights increases, exemptions must be widened accordingly' [p.10]. Given that for an item to be transmitted over the Internet, each computer en route must make a temporary copy, each 'Internet Service Provider' could also be liable for copyright infringement, causing a breakdown in the system. 'The Commission's approach would simply be that practically every act of transmitting a work over

the network...would qualify as countless acts of reproduction of the protected work'[LAB p7].

The Paper also recommends that 'the different rights attached to services transmitted by electronic means can hardly be made subject to exhaustion'[GP p.48]. This means that even though an electronic item has been purchased outright over the Internet, it would be illegal to resell it – something which totally overturns current consumer rights.

There is an area in which the Green Paper recommends the lessening of protection – Moral Rights.

'Independently of the author's economic rights, and even after the transfer of the said rights, the author shall have the right to claim authorship of the work and to object to any distortion, mutilation or other modification of, or any other derogatory action in relation to, the said work, which would be prejudicial to his honor or reputation'[Berne Convention, Article 6bis]. Given the ease of manipulation, Moral Rights are difficult to enforce for electronic works/copies. These rights are 'untransferable, inalienable and perpetual' leading publishers et al to see them as a 'major source of uncertainty in the exploitation of works, and consequently discouraged investment'[p.67]. Thus the view that '...problems of moral rights are to be resolved by contract?'[p.67] placing this final protection for authors also within the sphere of the market.

The Library Associations response to the Green Paper makes similar points, although purely within the remit laid out by the Green Paper itself, which makes them less hard hitting (LA/JCC Working Party on Copyright. Response to EC Green Paper: Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society. London, UK: Library Association, 1995). The 'LA/JCC Statement on Copyright and the Digital Environment. London, UK: Library Association, 1995' is more detailed, laying out minimum end user and intermediary rights as well as propounding basic non economic criteria for intellectual property legislation.

Given that the Green Paper was drawn up by Directorate General XV, Internal Market and Financial Services, its conclusions are not surprising. In the understated words of the Legal Advisory Board 'LAB regrets that the parties invited to express their views at the Superhighways' hearing did not include (proportional) representation of major information users, such as libraries, intermediaries, universities and end users'[LAB p.3].

Mark Perkins

A QUESTION OF ACCESS

FIL is becoming concerned at some libraries 'Access policies'.

If you have any information on your own access policy – especially in the university sector – or know of any problems your own readers have encountered, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please contact any Committee member.

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A NEW YEAR AND ANOTHER MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE.

Doesn't time fly?

Please ignore this notice if you have already paid for 1996.

If you haven't yet paid for 1996 can you complete the form below and return it to me as soon as possible.

Thank you and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Elaine Dean; Membership Secretary; ILL – Main Library, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield; S10 2TN.

Tel 0114 282 4332; fax 0114 273 9826; e-mail e.dean@sheffield.ac.uk

Please renew my subscription to the Forum for Interlending. I enclose a cheque made payable to Forum for Interlending/please invoice my institution*

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Name of FIL contact: _____

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WHAT IS FIL?

The Forum for Interlending is an organisation designed to enable those library staff involved in interlending and document supply to exchange ideas and views and to express new ideas.

FIL is run by an elected committee of members who themselves are involved in interlending.

Activities include:

- annual conference;
- exchange of experience workshops;
- liaison with regional and national organisations involved in interlending and co-operation between libraries (eg BLDSC, LINC);
- membership of/representation on national bodies (e.g. LINC, CONARLS);
- production of newsletter, reports and publications covering matters of importance to ILL staff;
- production of reports and publications covering matters of importance to ILL staff;
- facilitating the expression of views on national issues.

Recent areas of concern addressed by FIL include:

- charges between libraries;
- thesis interlending;
- Impact of CD-ROM;
- local government reorganisation;
- National Library Commission;
- copyright;
- networking;
- ILL computer systems & user groups;
- internet;
- LINC & BLDSC and declaration forms.

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining FIL is invited to complete the form below and return it to Elaine Dean, Membership Secretary, FIL, Inter-Library Loans Department, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN. Both institutional and individual members are welcome. Subscription for both categories is £20.00 per annum.

Please register me as a personal/institutional* member of the Forum for Interlending. I enclose a cheque for £20.00, made payable to the FORUM FOR INTERLENDING/Please invoice my institution.*

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Name: _____

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FIL MEMBERSHIP

FIL membership continues to grow and, as FIL gets a higher profile in the profession, we get more opportunities to express the opinions of members at national level. The courses we run seem to help recruit members, many of whom have not heard of FIL previously.

One of the problems seems to be getting information, and particularly the FIL Newsletter, to Inter-Library loans people. Very often it seems to come to a stop at the periodicals section or the Director/Chief Librarian!

We try to ensure that the FIL Newsletter gets to the right person but, inevitably, we sometimes get it wrong. If the FIL Newsletter does not make its way to you directly, and you want it to, please fill in the form below and send it back to me.

If any of the details listed below have changed recently at your organisation, can you please fill in the new information and return it to me?

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Please return to:

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