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Anthi Katsirikou (Ed.)

OPEN ACCESS TO STM INFORMATION

TRENDS, MODELS AND STRATEGIES FOR LIBRARIES



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Open Access to STM Information

Trends, Models and Strategies for Libraries

Edited by
Anthi Katsirikou

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Международная Федерация Библиотечных Ассоциаций и Учреждений
Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios y Bibliotecas
国际图书馆协会与机构联合会

الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات ومؤسسات المكتبات

About IFLA

www.ifla.org

IFLA (The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.

IFLA provides information specialists throughout the world with a forum for exchanging ideas and promoting international cooperation, research, and development in all fields of library activity and information service. IFLA is one of the means through which libraries, information centres, and information professionals worldwide can formulate their goals, exert their influence as a group, protect their interests, and find solutions to global problems.

IFLA's aims, objectives, and professional programme can only be fulfilled with the cooperation and active involvement of its members and affiliates. Currently, approximately 1,600 associations, institutions and individuals, from widely divergent cultural backgrounds, are working together to further the goals of the Federation and to promote librarianship on a global level. Through its formal membership, IFLA directly or indirectly represents some 500,000 library and information professionals worldwide.

IFLA pursues its aims through a variety of channels, including the publication of a major journal, as well as guidelines, reports and monographs on a wide range of topics. IFLA organizes workshops and seminars around the world to enhance professional practice and increase awareness of the growing importance of libraries in the digital age. All this is done in collaboration with a number of other non-governmental organizations, funding bodies and international agencies such as UNESCO and WIPO. IFLANET, the Federation's website, is a prime source of information about IFLA, its policies and activities: www.ifla.org

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Preface of the Conference Chair

It was a pleasure to us to welcome our guests in Chania for the IFLA Satellite pre-conference.

The meeting contributed to the dialogue between librarians and the other stakeholders of the scholarly communication to discuss the alternative solutions, in a more cost-effective and efficient manner. The Satellite pre-conference was an International meeting, participants from 16 countries and 4 continents took part.

The program included two full day presentations and social events. According to the program, the scientific part lasted from 9.00-18.30 and the social one lasted from 19.00- . There were two short archaeological visits, one conference dinner and one one-day excursion.

According to participants' comments, the conference was successful because:

1. A lot of topics on Open Access covered a holistic overview instead of an advocacy attitude in favour of OA.
2. Different perspectives were presented (the researchers', librarians', publishers', Open Access activists' point of view) and
3. There was enough time and opportunity for further conversation.

Indicatively we refer to the different identities of professionals and stakeholders that participated: Librarians, Researchers, Practitioners, Theorists, Repositories developers, Publishers, OA publishers, Technologists, Methodologists, Wikipedia representative, who presented different options/approaches of the same topic.

Generally speaking, participants found the whole organization successful, the location attractive and people friendly and hospitable, so the whole environment made them feel free to exchange ideas, to discuss and listen to each other.

Finally, the conference compiled a statement on OA.

I'd like to thank all of the participants who joined the meeting, the program committee and the organization committee, the sponsors and MAICH.

I'd also like to thank Janet Webster and Heather Todd, chairs of IFLA-Science and Technology Libraries Section and IFLA-Health and Biosciences Libraries Section, respectively, for accepting to organize the Satellite pre-conference in Chania, as well as the colleagues at IFLA Headquarters for their cooperation.

On behalf of the IFLA Satellite pre-conference of Chania,

Anthi Katsirikou

University of Piraeus Library

Conference Chair

Foreword of the IFLA STL Section Chair

Open access to the world's scientific and technological information is a worthy goal for the library profession. The users of our libraries require timely and affordable access to the information they need to frame their research questions, devise their approaches and verify their results. They both consume and produce the scientific and technological information. As librarians, we must facilitate both of these functions. Open access is one vital approach.

The IFLA Science and Technology Libraries Section recognizes the challenge of providing equitable access to information. Our role is to support science and technology librarians, and by so doing, the users of their libraries. The section tracks and responds to current challenges relevant to librarians working with the physical sciences, engineering and technology. Activities include monitoring the dynamic environment in the field, promoting discussions, as well as exploring and sharing best practices among members who serve in research, public, corporate and government libraries. Working with colleagues in developing nations is a high priority.

In the past two years, we have focused on elevating awareness of open access to scientific and technological information among our colleagues worldwide. The 2010 Satellite Workshop on Open Access to Science Information: Trends, Models and Strategies for Libraries provided an excellent forum to discuss the challenges of providing open access to information. The conversation was broad and resulted in a strong statement encouraging the IFLA Governing Board to investigate several factors when developing its stance on open access. These include the restrictive nature of many national copyright regimes, the wide variety of our libraries users' needs, and the complex relationship between information and learning.

The IFLA STL Section applauds the efforts of the workshop participants in articulating that an open society requires open access to information. Subsequent to the workshop, a Professional Resolution was submitted to the IFLA Professional Committee asking IFLA to clearly define its stance towards open access and to more actively advocate for strategies that promote open access. As the chair of the IFLA STL Section, I thank the Workshop participants and organizers for their thoughtful statement as this adds critical support for this important work of IFLA. Together, we will help create a more open society through better access to information.

Janet Webster
Chair, IFLA STL Section
Oregon State University, U.S.A.
November 11, 2010

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