



International Leads

A Publication of the International Relations Round Table of the American Library Association

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2003 Guadalajara Book Fair

By Sha Li Zhan

About 170 U.S. Librarians attended the 17th Guadalajara International Book Fair (*Feria Internacional del Libro — FIL*) held from November 29 - December 7, 2003, in Guadalajara, Mexico. FIL, the largest Spanish language book event in the world, has established itself as a prominent meeting place for publishers, book-sellers, literary agents, authors, librarians, and readers.

FIL's Guest of Honor this year was Quebec. Rosa Maria Fernandez Esquivel de Zamora received the Tribute to a Librarian for her accomplishments in library science and her tireless efforts on behalf of librarianship. Zamora is a librarian and professor at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM).

The U.S. delegation of librarians was the largest professional group at FIL, thanks to the American Library Association's Free-Pass Program for librarians working in the area of Spanish language acquisitions. The Free-Pass Program was initiated in 1996 by ALA Past-President Barbara Ford whose presidential theme was "Global Reach, Local Touch."

According to Michael Dowling, Director of ALA's International Relations Office (IRO), U.S. librarians attending FIL spent over a million U.S. dollars on 160,000 Spanish language books, about \$12 per title. Noting the success of this program, Carol Brey-Casiano, ALA President-Elect, announced that ALA's agreement with FIL on the Free-Pass Program will continue through 2008. Libraries in the United States have witnessed a rapid increase of Spanish speakers in their communities. Casiano told their U.S. librarians at FIL that 25% of the population served by the El Paso Public Library in Texas, where she is director, speaks Spanish.

ALA-FIL Free-Pass Orientation

This year, 70 of the 170 U.S. librarians attending FIL were first-timers from libraries where the Spanish speaking users are a new phenomenon. Just browsing through more than 1,000 exhibits and 200,000 books at the fair could be a challenge. To assist these first-timers in selecting and purchasing materials, ALA's IRO organized an orientation. Dowling invited the veteran librarians, including Adalin Torres-Zayas from the Inglewood (California) Public Library, Adan Griego from Stanford University, and Elissa Miller from Arlington (Virginia) County Public Library to offer useful tips and insights about Spanish language publishing trends, strategies and criteria for selecting materials at the fair, hot-buy titles, working with vendors, and walking "on the FIL floor."

The first-timers also benefited from the new *Salon del Libro*, a small area at the fair where publishers and book-sellers provided catalogs and displayed their titles for browsing. Four American librarians volunteered to select quality titles from those on display. The staff from the IRO and volunteers from REFORMA, a national (U.S.) organization for promoting library and information services to Latinos and speakers of Spanish, helped staff the ALA booth and provided assistance in Spanish.

Library Tour

During FIL, George and Virginia Gause, University of Texas Pan American, led a library tour to the Biblioteca Publica del Ejercito in Guadalajara, Mexico, where R. Spinosa, director of the library showed them around and provided refreshments afterwards. The library is located in a beautiful historical building and managed by a military

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unit although open to the public. The collections are small (reference, general, children's and audio visual materials) but well-maintained. There is a special collection of materials for the blind and scanning and audio-recording equipment that volunteers use to produce those materials.

Espinosa's answers to the Americans' questions revealed that the issues in his library were similar to those back in the U.S. They also learned that the Biblioteca Publica del Ejercito does not fine patrons for late return of materials. Instead, after three overdue occurrences borrowing privileges are suspended for an appropriate period of time.

Hector Marino, REFORMA's International Relations Committee Chairperson, organized two meetings between U.S. and Mexican librarians. The two Mexican organizations were the Jalisco Library Association and the Mexican Library Association (Asociacion Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, A.C.—AMBAC). During the meetings, AMBAC officers proposed cooperative projects professional exchanges, the establishment of sister libraries, and mentoring programs. The proposals will be followed up with concrete plans and action items at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January 2004 in San Diego.



From left, Keith Fiels, ALA Executive Director; Michael Dowling, Director of the ALA International Relations Office; and Carol Brey-Casiano, ALA President-Elect. (Photo by Sha Li Zhang, December 2003)



Fil 2004 ALA Booth Visitors (Photo by Sha Li Zhang, December 2004)

IRRT Officers

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Karen J. Starr
New Mexico State Library

Vice Chair/Chair-Elect

Nancy Bolt
Colorado State Library

Past Chair

H. Lea Wells
Zayed University

Secretary/Treasurer

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Denise M. Davis
Simmons College

Members-at-Large

John A. Eilts
Stanford University

IRRT Web Site:

<http://www.ala.org/irrt/>

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Message from the IRRT Chair

By Karen Starr

**ALA International Relations Round Table
Chair's Report
2004 Midwinter Conference – San Diego, CA
Sunday, January 11, 2004**

1. Nancy Bolt, Chair-Elect, and I held bi-weekly phone calls to discuss IRRT business items.
2. Subcommittees and liaison positions
 - a) Worked with Nancy to appoint IRRT members to committee positions. Nancy took the lead in the appointment process. Sent a copy of the IRRT Excel committee spreadsheet to Nancy, Delin Guerra, and Jeannette Pierce as the IRRT webmaster. Nancy has recommended that the appointment process be assigned to the chair-elect and that the cycle be changed so appointments for the following year are done prior to the Annual Conference instead of after the Annual Conference by the new Chair. The chair-elect would have built a familiarity with the committee members and chairs and be positioned to work with them as part of that individual's year as chair. These changes will be included as part of the recommended revisions of the bylaws.
 - b) Will be working to include information about interest groups in the IRRT officer's manual and bylaws.
 - c) Denise Davis has worked on virtual committee activities and will report on them during the Midwinter Executive Committee meeting.
 - d) Ravil Veli and the membership committee have compiled a proposal for and increase in membership dues that will be submitted to the Executive Committee at Midwinter for discussion and acceptance and then included in the ballot mailed out to membership during the 2004 annual elections.
 - e) Requested the Program Committee to contact divisional IRC's doing programs at annual to report on their programs using the form on the IRRT website and submit the forms to the Program Committee and the IRO for inclusion on the website announcing programs at the annual meeting in Orlando.
- f) Requested that the Orientation/Mentoring Committee address the issues of assigning mentors as a committee activity and work with the IRO regarding food during the orientation. Spoke to Michael Dowling regarding the international awards traditionally made during the Reception. Subject to approval of the Executive Committee the awards will be made during the Orientation at each Annual Meeting and an executive committee member will be assigned as liaison to work with the committee to make the ceremony happen.
3. Wrote one column for *International Leads* appearing in the September issue.
4. Continued to work with Lea Wells, past-chair to solicit donations from vendors in support of the Reception. As of the first of the year, email contacts have been made with all the vendors who supported the Reception in Toronto.
5. Credit goes to all the committee members who make IRRT work and, most importantly, to the IRO office and its staff who provide the coordination that makes the annual conference come together.
6. Nancy has spent time reviewing the bylaws and committee charges. Discussion of the recommended changes will be on the agenda at Midwinter. Final update of the manual is projected for the Annual meeting in Orlando. Michael Dowling has been contacted to determine whether any of these changes have to go to a vote of the membership.
7. The IRO established a listserv for all IRRT executive committee memberships, committee chairs, the Leads editor, the webmaster, and liaisons.

IRRT Bylaws and Proposed Amendments

The IRRT Bylaws need to be revised to:

- * Bring them into line with current practice;
- * Clarify ambiguities;
- * Add new programs such as Interest Groups.

The bylaws are presented here for your information. The actual vote on their revision will be at the IRRT membership meeting at the ALA conference in Orlando. Below the language to be deleted is crossed out and new language is in *italic*.

In summary, the changes are:

- * Changing confusing terminology — Executive “Committee” to Executive “Board”;
- “subcommittee” to “committee” to bring them into line with other ALA units.
- * Clarifying succession if the Chair or Vice-chair resigns before the term is completed;
- * Clarifying that the voting members on the

Executive Board are the elected members of the Board and that a quorum is a simple majority of the Board;

- * Allowing one member of the nominating committee to be appointed for a second one-year term;
- * Allowing IRRT liaisons to other organizations to continue as long as there is interest;
- * Allowing the formation of Interest Groups that can be formed by a petition signed by eight IRRT members and that must be renewed every three years.

Bylaws of the ALA International Relations Round Table

Article I: Name

The name of this organization is the ALA International Relations Round Table (hereafter referred to as the Round Table or IRRT).

Article II: Purpose

To promote interest in library issues and librarianship worldwide; to help coordinate international activities within the American Library Association, serving as a liaison between the International Relations Committee and those members of the Association interested in international relations; to develop programs and activities which further the international objectives of ALA; and to provide hospitality and information to visitors

Article III: Membership

Any member of the American Library Association may elect membership in the International Relations Round Table upon payment of the dues required for membership

in the Round Table. Every member has the right to vote. Any personal member is eligible to hold office.

Article IV: Dues

The annual membership dues are stated in the latest *ALA Handbook of Organization*.

Article V: Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting

The regular membership meeting of the Round Table shall be held at the time and place of the annual conference of the American Library Association.

Section 2. Special Meetings.

Special membership meetings may be called by the Executive ~~Committee~~ *Board* and shall be called upon the petition of twenty IRRT members. Notice of any special meeting, together with a statement of the business to be transacted, shall be mailed to each member at least thirty days before such a meeting. No business other than that stated in such notice may be transacted.

Section 3. Quorum

Twenty members constitute a quorum at any membership meeting of the Round Table.

Article VI: Officers ~~and Terms of Office~~

Section 1. ~~Enumeration.~~ *Officers*

The officers of the Round Table are the chair, the vice-chair, the immediate past-chair, the secretary/treasurer, and two members-at-large.

Section 2. Terms of Office.

a) The chair and the vice-chair/chair-elect shall each serve one year terms. The secretary/treasurer and the members-at-large serve two-year terms. No one may serve more than two consecutive terms.

b) In the event a chair-*elect* is unable to complete his/her term, *the Chair will be asked to serve one additional year OR the chair-elect will assume the duties of the chair as well as retain the office of chair-elect to be determined by the Board*. If any other of the officers, vice-chair/chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, or the two members-at-large is unable to complete his/her term of office, the chair, with the approval of the remaining officers, shall appoint an individual to complete the term of office. After such an individual has completed the partial term he/she may be elected for the normal term of office according to the above rules.

Article VII. Executive ~~Committee~~ *Board*

Section 1. Composition.

The Executive ~~Committee~~ *Board* consists of the chair, vice-chair/chair-elect, immediate past chair, secretary/treasurer, and two elected members-at-large. ~~The chairs of standing subcommittees, the representatives to other ALA~~

IRRT Election Slate and Fee Proposal

Chair-Elect

Jeannette E. Pierce, Librarian for History, Political Science, and Sociology, John Hopkins University. As a graduate student she worked for the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has been the Chair of the Bogle/Pratt International Travel Award Subcommittee and of the Joint Committee on International Exchanges. She has been the co-presenter of several poster sessions, Secretary/Treasurer of the IRRT and is currently its Web Master.

Kurt H. Cumiskey, Assistant to the Director of Libraries, North Carolina State University. He has taught English at the Charles Esterhazy College in Eger, Hungary. He studied international librarianship at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is currently chairing the Continuing Education (Sub)committee of the IRRT.

Member-at-Large

Ravil Veli, Associate Librarian at the Plattsburgh State University of New York. He is originally from Canada and is currently chairing the Membership (Sub)committee of the IRRT.

Judith Lin Hunt, Dean of Library Services, Montclair State University. Her interest in international librarianship began as a student in an International and Comparative Librarianship course at Columbia. Her dissertation topic was on the development of the libraries of the new universities in England. She has presented a paper at a Conference of Southeast Asian Librarians at Brunei, where she was an ALA/USIA library fellow in 1996. She is co-developing a Web site for a conference on global business with a librarian at the Universidad del Valle de Atemajac in Guadalajara. She is currently chairing the Orientation/Mentoring (Sub)committee of the IRRT.

Please vote for the candidates of your choice. Your vote is important.

Proposal I

Increase membership dues for regular IRRT members to \$15.

Rationale:

Although IRRT fees have remained unchanged for a decade (1993 was the last increase) all the expenses for IRRT activities have not. IRRT fee supported activities ranging from orientation for international visitors to establishment of international visitor lounges, to postage costs for membership mailings (including *International Leads*) have significantly increased in cost. A fee increase from the current \$10.00 to \$15.00 will position IRRT to meet current challenges and insure the future vitality of IRRT services and benefits.

Proposal II

Establish a \$5.00 membership rate for both international librarians and student members.

Rationale:

Total membership fees for international librarians can be significant barriers to participation. By reducing the cost for IRRT membership for international librarians IRRT can position itself as not only the most natural but also the most cost effective choice for participation in ALA beyond mere basic membership. For student ALA members an affordable IRRT cost structure can encourage the development of internationally focused young and early career librarians. Future IRRT membership growth and vitality will hinge upon the ability of IRRT to engage and attract student members.

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~~International Leads, the ALA Round Table Councilor at Large and the ALA International Relations Office staff liaison are ex-officio, non-voting members of the Executive Committee.~~

Section 2. Powers and Duties.

The Executive ~~Committee~~ Board has authority over the affairs of the Round Table. During the period between the midwinter meetings and the annual conferences, the officers of the IRRT have authority over the affairs of the Round Table.

Section 3. Meetings.

The Executive ~~Committee~~ Board shall meet during the annual conference and midwinter meetings of ALA.

Section 4. Quorum.

A majority of members constitutes a *quorum* at any meeting of the Executive ~~Committee~~ Board or of the officers.

Section 5. Roster.

The names and affiliations of each Executive ~~Committee~~ Board member shall be published annually in the ALA Handbook of Organization. *The chairs of all IRRT Committees and Liaisons shall be published annually in the ALA Handbook of Organization and on the IRRT web site.*

Section 6. Mail Votes.

Mail votes may be taken in accordance with the procedure established for the ALA Executive Board. ALA Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 9: "Votes in the Executive Board, as well as in committees, may be taken by mail, electronic system, or conference call, provided that all members are canvassed simultaneously. An affirmative vote from two-thirds of the full body shall be required. Each committee *and board* shall have the authority to set a time limit within which the votes of its members shall be recorded, but if no such time limit is set no vote shall be counted unless received within 3 days from the day the text of the matter voted upon was mailed properly addressed to those entitled to vote on the matter involved."

Article VIII. Subcommittees

Section 1. Standing ~~Sub~~committees.

Standing ~~sub~~committees may be authorized or discontinued by the IRRT Executive ~~Committee~~ Board. Chairs of ~~most~~ standing ~~sub~~committees (*except as indicated below*) shall be appointed by the IRRT ~~chair~~ Vice-Chair for two years each, and may be reappointed to an additional two year term. Chairs of the Reception and Nominating ~~Sub~~committees are appointed for one-year

~~terms. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for a consecutive term. One member of the Nominating Committee may be appointed for one consecutive term. No member of the Executive Board may serve on the Nominating Committee. All members of IRRT committees must be IRRT members.~~

All standing ~~sub~~committees should review their charge every two years as needed and make recommendations for changes to the IRRT Executive ~~Committee~~ Board for approval and subsequent inclusion in the IRRT Procedures Manual.

Section 2. Ad Hoc ~~Sub~~committees

Ad hoc ~~sub~~committees for the performance of a particular assignment may be authorized by the IRRT chair, by the Executive ~~Committee~~ Board or by the membership. No ad hoc ~~sub~~committee may be continued for more than two years, without authorization *from the Executive Board.*

Section 3. Interest Groups

Interest groups may be formed by a petition signed by 8 members of IRRT and must include a description of the purpose of the Interest Group. The Chair of an Interest Group must be an IRRT member. The purpose and the continuation of Interest Groups must be reconfirmed every three years.

Section 4. Reports

Each ~~sub~~committee shall report to the Executive ~~Committee~~ Board at the midwinter meeting and the annual conference.

Article IX: Liaisons

Liaison appointments are made by the IRRT Chair for one-year terms and may be reappointed for ~~a second one-year term~~ *additional terms.*

Article X: Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee

Prior to the annual membership meeting, the ~~outgoing chair, the IRRT Chair-elect with the approval of the IRRT Executive Committee,~~ shall appoint a Nominating ~~sub~~committee for a term that begins with the adjournment of the annual conference and expires with the ~~Sub~~committee's final report at the following midwinter meeting.

Section 2. Nominations.

The Nominating ~~Sub~~committee shall present a slates of candidates for the offices of chair, vice-chair, secretary/ treasurer and members-at-large. *Every third year, IRERT may also nominate someone to be considered as Round Table Councilor.* No candidate may be presented who is not a member of the Round Table at the time of

Report from your Editor

Thomas W. Leonhardt



With this issue, we say good-bye and thank you to Sha Li Zhang who edited *International Leads* for the past four years and sixteen issues. For four years, as soon as Sha Li finished one issue, she began another, often having to remind authors and potential authors of impending deadlines. Much of the work of the IRRT is done by its membership (with a lot also done by the ALA International Relations Office for which we are grateful), in other words, volunteers. We know that our day jobs must come first but we must remind ourselves, from time to time, that with volunteering comes responsibility.

Sha Li brought a certain feel and stability to this publication that we hope we can sustain the effort. It is fitting, given her years of service, that our feature article this issue was written by Sha Li. Thank you, Sha Li, for a job well done.

With the change in editor, it might be helpful to our readers if we explained what an editor does and why you should take an active interest in what appears on these pages. As members of IRRT, it is your publication.

The editor's main responsibility is to select the content for each issue from the pool of available material. Reports from IRRT/IRC/IRO officers take precedence over other submissions as do announcements about IRRT and IRC meetings held during the ALA Midwinter Meeting and the Annual Conference.

The editor is also responsible for the quality of the writing in *International Leads*. When changes are made to articles and reports, care is taken to retain an author's voice and the essence of the piece even while changing words and cutting the length.

The editor is also constantly worrying about having enough acceptable copy, a recurring nightmare, if you will. So if you have an idea, a report, or an article that you think fits the scope of *International Leads*, please send it to me or call if you have questions. We will sleep better if you do.

This issue contains the annual report from the IRRT Chair, Karen Starr, but it also contains important information that will appear on your ALA ballot to be mailed this spring.

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The Nova Scotia Library Association is pleased to announce the establishment of the "Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership" to be awarded annually by NSLA for leadership in the Nova Scotia library community.

The award, announced at NSLA's Annual General Meeting on October 25, 2003 in Dundee, Nova Scotia, will honor the unflagging and constant support Dr. Horrocks has provided the Association from its beginnings to the celebration of its 30th Anniversary which will take place in 2004. The Nova Scotia Library Association was established in 1974 to promote and facilitate the exchange of ideas, problems and solutions among people concerned with library service at all levels and in all areas of Nova Scotia. The General Meeting of the Association is hosted annually by various library-related organizations throughout the province.

Dr. Horrocks is Professor Emeritus, School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Editorial Consultant, Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland and Contributing Editor, "Library Journal", New York. He was present in Yarmouth in 1973 to support the establishment of the Association, has been a member since its incorporation in 1974 and in 1990 received the NSLA Lifetime Membership Award.

His work in libraries - for those who work in them and those they serve - was first recognized at the Manchester Public Libraries in England when he was the first recipient of the W.H. Brown Prize for public service. This was an annual reward, funded by a grateful library user, to recognize the contributions of the library staff to the public good.

Dr. Horrocks is the only person to have received top awards from three national associations - the Canadian, British and American library associations. In addition, Dr. Horrocks has received awards from: the University of Pittsburgh, Rutgers - the State University of New Jersey, The Atlantic Provinces Library Association, Beta Phi Mu - the international scholastic honor society for librarians, The Association for Library and Information Science Education, The New Jersey Library Association, and, The Writers Federation of Nova Scotia.

The nomination criteria will be posted shortly on the Nova Scotia Library Association web site, <http://nsla.ns.ca>. The first "Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership" will be presented at the Association's annual meeting in October 2004. Peggy Hiscock Past President, NSLA Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library 902.755.6031 phiscock@nsngp.library.ns.ca

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nomination. The nominations shall be reported to the membership in the spring issue of *International Leads*. Further nominations may be made in writing by any ~~five~~ *eight* members of IRRT ~~within one month of the report of the Nominating Subcommittee, by the deadline set by ALA for ballots.~~

Section 3. Elections

Elections shall be conducted by mail ballot as part of the regular ALA electoral process. In case of a tie, the election shall be decided by lot. The two member at-large positions will be elected one each year, thereby staggering their terms. The vice-chair/chair-elect will be elected each year and the secretary/treasurer will be elected in alternate years. The ALA Round Table Councilor-at-Large is elected every third year.

Article XI: Amendments

Section 1. Proposals.

Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed in writing by the Executive ~~Committee~~ *Board*, an ad hoc ~~subcommittee~~ appointed for the purpose, or any five members. Proposals originating with groups of members shall be filed with the secretary/treasurer at least three months before the next executive meeting.

Section 2. Notice.

A copy of any proposed amendment and the recommendation of the Executive ~~Committee~~ *Board* shall be mailed to each member at least thirty days before it is to be voted upon, unless the proposal was reported at the preceding annual membership meeting.

Section 3. Vote.

Two-thirds of the members present and voting at an annual membership meeting shall carry a proposed amendment. In the case of a mail referendum, two-thirds of the votes cast shall carry a proposed amendment.

Article XII. Previous Notice

Publication of notices in an issue of *International Leads* or *American Libraries* appearing within the required period of time fulfills the requirements of notice by mail.

Article XIII. General Provisions

Wherever these Bylaws make no specific provisions, the organization of, and procedures in the Round Table shall correspond to those set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of ALA and shall be decided by the parliamentary authority adopted by ALA.

Editor's Report continued from page 7

This advance information is to give you the opportunity to consider candidates for IRRT officers, proposed bylaws amendments, and a proposal to increase IRRT dues, something that has not been done since 1992.

In addition to official news and announcements, we publish reports about international events (the Guadalajara International Book Fair story on page 1) and persons (the story about Norman Horrocks on page 7). We welcome submissions on any aspect of international librarianship but we cannot guarantee when, if ever, your piece will be published and we also reserve the right to edit for readability and space. If we cannot use your piece, we will let you know.

We also believe that it is important to weigh in on the proposal to increase IRRT dues. It has been more than a decade since the last dues increase. During that time, the increases in postage rates alone justifies this modest \$5 increase.

Finally, let me hear from you. What would you like this publication to be? Do you read it when it comes to your home or office? What do you like about it and what would you change? I am interested in what you have to say.

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Postage