

PRESENTATION FOR PANEL ON AFRICAN NEWSPAPERS: ACCESS & TECHNOLOGY 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, 19-23 AUGUST 2007, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

IPSISSIMA VERBA: THE FUTURE OF NEWSPAPER PRESERVATION IN AN AGE OF EPIDEMIC URLITIS

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Abstract:

African newspapers are among the most permanent and enduring publications recording political events on the continent. Although these materials are notoriously difficult to collect and preserve, they are all-the-more vital if the historical record of Africa is to survive. As library budgets become increasingly inadequate, similarly increasing pressure is being placed on librarians to cancel expensive print editions of newspapers in favor of relying on internet access, whether free or provided by commercial aggregators. No doubt this is cost- and space-effective in the short run, but an unavoidable consequence is that a major primary source—the print newspaper (for electronic access is only partial) is threatened with slow extinction. The Africana Librarians Council (ALC) of the Center for Research Libraries (CRL),

Cooperative Africana Microform Program (CAMP), formed a sub-committee to examine this dilemma.

The Center for Research Libraries (CRL) is a consortium of North American research libraries that promotes the preservation of resources for future generations of scholars. At present, overall holdings amount to 5 million volumes of newspapers, periodicals, monographs, dissertations, archival and manuscript material, government reports, etc. Collecting global newspapers was an original part of CRL's mission and remains so to this day. CRL has numerous regional programs, such as, Latin America, Southeast Asia, Africa, and so forth.

The Cooperative Africana Microform Program (CAMP) is one of the original regional programs and is now 50 years old and counting. Beginning

modestly with the preservation filming of 57 titles, CAMP presently holds partial or complete runs of approximately 1,350 newspapers in microform from Africa (North Africa included). No stronger a rationale for continuing to collect print titles for future preservation is the fact that newspapers have represented from 40% to 60 % of all materials loaned by CAMP over the past 5 years.

Several years ago, CAMP created an online union list of African newspapers held by member institutions. AFRINUL, as it is called, is designed primarily as a tool for librarians, and will continue to increase in value when information is included from all member institutions. What might be the most important outcome of AFRINUL, however, will be a more accurate determination of which African titles are *not* being collected so that appropriate steps can be taken to remedy this.

While AFRINUL is a grass-roots project, the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON), also based at CRL, provides a free database of MARC-based bibliographical information on newspapers worldwide from records that have been amassed from major national and international bibliographic utilities. ICON has preserved several important titles from Africa, such as the *Eritrean Daily News* (Asmara), and *Il Quotidiano Eritreo* (UK-Italian occupation). Current newspapers are not listed, however, and for this reason it is imperative to encourage and maintain the development of AFRINUL.

Recognizing that economic realities are forcing many institutions to cancel print in favor of newspaper websites or from less-than-satisfactory aggregators, the Africana Librarians Council (ALC) established a CAMP sub-committee in 2006 to deal with this issue. The committee

IFLA INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER CONFERENCE 2008

1 - 3 April 2008, National Library Singapore Co-organised by the National Library Singapore, IFLA Newspapers Section, IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section and IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation (PAC).

consisted of representatives from major US libraries (Library of Congress, Center for Research Libraries, Yale, Stanford, Harvard, and Northwestern Universities) all of whom have invested considerable resources over the years in newspaper subscriptions, maintenance, storage, and preservation, and who feel keenly this commitment to preserving the present for the future is one of our paramount responsibilities.

The first charge to the committee included gathering and evaluating information about the availability of newspapers for microfilming. Examples include CAMP member institutions, holdings at the Library of Congress-Nairobi Office, and the Library of Congress itself, as well as libraries and archives in Africa and Europe. Additional charges included coordinating the planning and follow-through by having CAMP establish priorities for preservation, promoting AFRINUL as a tool for sharing information about African newspaper holdings, and planning for the cooperative acquisition of African newspapers among CAMP members. We also agreed to notify CAMP members of any cancellations of print newspapers, to avoid canceling last copy print subscriptions – in the United States anyway.

To this end, the committee embarked on a survey to determine what current titles our institutions are receiving and which institutions, if any, are doing any filming. What was envisioned as an easy task has turned out to be an exercise in frustration as many of us have discovered, or been

reminded, of how inadequate our library records are. And, most institutions have abandoned filming for the time being, due in large part to a severe shortage of machine parts. The majority of us have been assuming that other institutions would pick up the slack (just as most of us tend to assume that other institutions have larger budgets. . .).

An interesting, and unforeseen, outcome of this survey has been the revelation that not many of us have been paying close enough attention to our current subscriptions and were therefore unable to coordinate our information effectively or to readily determine whether all issues of a title have been received. We have been spending years and countless staff hours creating a database of our institutional holdings of African newspapers, only to find that none of us has reliable, accurate holdings information for current titles, thereby compromising the value of AFRINUL. Nonetheless, since the data-gathering stage is nearing completion, we can report some *tentative* findings from our initial survey:

Most importantly, the Library of Congress Overseas Office in Nairobi is currently filming nearly 90 titles from sub-Saharan Africa, while CAMP members presently subscribe to or otherwise receive 273 different African newspapers. Of the 273, 63 are provided by the LC-Nairobi Office, leaving 210 discrete titles received from other sources/suppliers. At present, CAMP

members are regularly filming about 10 newspapers in addition to the 90 being filmed by LC-Nairobi. Perhaps the most interesting figure to emerge from the survey is the total number of unique titles (again excluding the Library of Congress) – 123 -- being collected currently by CAMP members. In addition, we have learned that no one is collecting any newspapers from Guinéa-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, various of the island countries, and that, for many countries, the collecting is intermittent and sporadic, despite best efforts.

Regrettably, it is apparent that no proportionality exists between size or significance of a particular country and the number of titles that we are collectively receiving from any given country. In part this is the result of accidents in the ability to acquire materials relatively effectively, and in part to the absence of any sensible resource-sharing initiatives, which would help spread coverage. One urgent task for the near future is the implementation of coordinative plans that place long-term access above local curricular needs and parochial concerns. Until this happens, coverage of Africa-based newspapers, however impressive the numbers, will remain fitful and unnecessarily sporadic.

As mentioned earlier, economic realities combined with technology are placing most of us who continue to collect print newspapers between the proverbial rock and hard

place. Moreover, we are frequently asked by astonished funding entities *why* we are collecting print papers in this age of widespread internet availability. We respond that we are not collecting for their current awareness value, but for dependable preservation purposes (and, of course, to support curricular needs). We point out on these occasions that persistent access to electronic data as provided by newspaper publishers and commercial aggregators is far from guaranteed—that we are not yet able to preserve today’s technology with any confidence. The software/hardware is as fugitive as the so-called “moving wall” of coverage, not to mention the myriad ownership issues, or indeed the breadth and depth of coverage provided by aggregators.

Several years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision in the case of *Tasini vs. The New York Times* ruling that newspaper publishers could not use freelance authors’ work in their online commercial databases. The case has had tremendous implications for libraries, publishers, aggregators, and indeed, writers. As a result of this ruling, the *New York Times* had to remove over 100,000 articles from its electronic versions. Interestingly enough, the Supreme Court decision does not include microform versions. Beyond this legal contretemps, users of such commercial databases cannot be sure whether they have in front of them the *ipsissima verba* of the original complete with illustrations, photographs, letters, wire-service, etc.

In view of these uncongenial realities, it is vital that we maintain print subscriptions to those newspapers which are not being preserved either in microfilm or by harvesting the internet by either libraries or publishers. A/The major problem heretofore has been identifying those current titles and deciding who will maintain the subscription and who will be responsible for the preservation of the title. The initiatives mentioned above are designed precisely to allow this to happen.

This is not to discount the value of digitization in these cases. Obviously the digital provides functionality not allowed for in film, such as free text searching. Furthermore, digitization of

retrospective/historical titles is providing access to countless heretofore partly or completely inaccessible newspapers. Each, however, falls short of perfection and depends on the criteria brought to it.

In this regard, I must note that many publishers are not archiving their digital versions, assuming that the commercial aggregators Lexis/Nexis, NewsBank, etc. will take care of this responsibility, even though these aggregators do not consider themselves to be responsible for preservation either. These entities have never had to think about preservation as an intellectual responsibility and there is certainly no evidence that they have begun to do so. Africana librarians would argue that it is incumbent on publishers to

individually/independently create some sort of preservation archive; if they do not, long-term access to these primary resources will not exist.

In closing, let me just list several considerations that will need addressing all along the way.

- Since space considerations will be a problem in all repositories forevermore, any solution(s) must be comprehensive, yet efficient and sustainable in the long term.
- This means carefully orchestrated inter-institutional cooperation, encompassing the repositories and archives in the former

colonial and colonized nations, and the creation of a grand inventory *cum* union list, particularly for current and continuing publications, as soon as possible. This cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often.

- Details such as digital standards must be worked out beforehand and adhered to afterward.
- Preference/priority should obviously be given to materials for which only one copy is being collected, or is known to exist, or for titles whose physical condition warrants immediate attention.
- Preservation must take precedence over access, despite objections that may arise.

CAMP Newspaper Committee Survey Results

Current titles (excluding South Africa) received in print by institution:

Boston University	9	Stanford University	67
Columbia	8	U.C.Berkeley	9
Cornell	9	U.C.Los Angeles	51
Harvard	41	University of Florida	10
Indiana University	10	University of Illinois	0
Kansas University	7	University of Iowa	0
Library of Congress	169	University of Michigan	0
Michigan State	26	University of Pennsylvania	3
Northwestern University	149	University of Wisconsin	9
Ohio University	0	Yale	24
Princeton University	2		



**PRELIMINARY NUMBER OF CURRENT PRINT SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN NEWSPAPERS
COLLECTED BY U.S. INSTITUTIONS (as reported by institution, August 2007)
[Number of titles by Country, excluding South Africa]**

ANGOLA	1	MADAGASCAR	8
BENIN	5	MALAWI	6
BOTSWANA	6	MALI	21
BURKINA FASO	2	MAURITANIA	1
CAMEROON	10	MAURITIUS	10
CAPE VERDE	1	MOZAMBIQUE	3
CENTRAL AFRI. REP.	1	NAMIBIA	8
CHAD	1	NIGER	2
COMOROS	0	NIGERIA	20
CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE	3	REUNION	3
CONGO (D.R.)	44	RWANDA	2
COTE D'IVOIRE	2	SAINT HELENA	0
DJIBOUTI	1	SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	0
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	1	SENEGAL	3
ERITREA	1	SEYCHELLES	2
ETHIOPIA	5	SIERRA LEONE	8
GABON	1	SUDAN	2
GAMBIA	2	SWAZILAND	5
GHANA	9	TANZANIA	16
GUINEA	3	TOGO	7
GUINEA-BISSAU	0	UGANDA	4
KENYA	14	ZAMBIA	4
LESOTHO	13	ZIMBABWE	6
LIBERIA	20	*****	
		TOTAL	273

	<p style="text-align: right;">Date : 19/07/2007</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR STORING, ARCHIVING AND PRESERVING NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS: THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RECENT EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Douwe Drijfhout</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa http://www.ifla.org/iv/ifla73/index.htm</p>	

In terms of South African legal deposit legislation, the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) keeps at least one paper copy of each newspaper that is published in South Africa. The collections at the Cape Town campus consist of over 36,000 bound volumes of newspapers. As in other parts of the world, microfilming has been the most common format for preservation copying at the NLSA. Over the years a total of 348 current and historic newspaper titles were filmed by way of in-house operations. Many more current newspapers are produced commercially by microform service bureaus, of which copies are purchased for use in the reading rooms of the library.

Microfilming has a long history of use in libraries and is likely to remain in the near future despite the challenge of digital storage media. Microfilm still appears to be a cost-effective format and compatible long-term

storage medium. A major advantage is the long-term stability of film, with a life expectancy of over 500 years if appropriate processing standards, storage conditions and handling procedures are observed.

However, preservation microfilming is an extremely complex activity requiring skilled operators and expensive, specialized equipment. It is not simply a matter of mounting a camera on a desk and snapping pictures. Operators must be well trained. Filming requires attention to correct lighting, exposure and adjustment of the camera system. The film must be constantly checked for quality and images clarity. Not all commercially available microfilms are produced in compliance with archival standards.

One weakness of the microfilm medium has always been machine dependent access and difficulty of use. Few

libraries provide top-quality readers and reader-printers. Users still prefer using the original print copies of newspapers.

The development of digital imaging technology on the other hand enabled further reformatting of documents that were filmed for preservation purposes, namely digital scanning from microfilm. The microfilm images could now be viewed from any computer screen. Further processing by way of optical character recognition provided opportunities for full-text indexing and improved search capabilities.

But the original paper copies could be scanned as well. Why then microfilm first or microfilm at all? What would be the best option: to film or to scan? What would be the best alternative for storing, archiving and preserving newspaper collections today?

Newspaper collections have been microfilmed for years. Those microfilms can be reformatted again to a digital medium. It is also possible to skip the microfilm process and to scan straight from the original copies. In both cases we would end up with digital documents: from newsprint to digital copy.

Paper => film =>
digital Paper => digital

This process makes perfect sense for historic newspaper collections. You would always start with the paper copy. However, current newspapers that are printed on paper and delivered to your doorstep are actually produced and printed by means of modern computerized systems. A digital copy exists before it is printed. The same digital signals (printstream) that are used to produce a print copy can be converted into electronic formats such as TIFF and PDF. In the early 80s there were already predictions

that these developments, combined with web-based publishing on the Internet, would lead to full-blown electronic publishing: making printed newspapers obsolete (De Beer et al, 1998: 497).

If digital was the end of all preservation requirements, then the solution would surely be to copy all newspaper print files directly from the desktop to a digital repository, cutting out the print copy or microfilm edition all together. Why would you scan microfilm or print editions if a source in digital form already exists?

However, apparently there is currently a growing demand for computer-output microfilm. Why?

For the following reasons:

- Risks involved with loss of data integrity.
- Problems with surviving technology obsolescence.
- High costs of media refreshes and format migrations.

It is well known that digital data storage technology is highly susceptible to corruption by intrusion, viruses and human error. Even in tightly controlled operations, back-up tapes can go astray. Hardware and software become obsolete. Migration is expensive and the risks of transcription errors are many.

Microfilm is still a viable medium for archiving purposes. In the business environment most companies have a combination of paper and electronic documents, and are required by legislation and customer service requirements to secure the availability of the documents for the duration

of their lifecycle. In comparison to modern information media, microfilm has the advantage that no fundamental technical transformation of the content takes place. Microfilm-based archives are not easily altered and are 'technology independent' when it becomes necessary to recover or reproduce stored documents. The analogue-stored information is directly accessible, with relative little effort. Microfilm can be easily and economically created, duplicated and distributed. For these reasons, recording information on 'eye-readable' formats, such as microfilm, is rapidly gaining in popularity.

Both Kodak and Fujifilm developed digital-to-film archiving systems in recent years. Kodak's i9600 Series Archive Writer is based on ISO/ANSI standards using 16mm high-quality microfilm (Kodak, 2007). The documents can afterwards be automatically searched and re-digitized for online access and retrieval. Fujifilm's AR-1000 Document Archive System, introduced in Japan in 2004, records digital documents on 16mm roll film as well. According to IMA (2006) the Fujifilm AR-1000 is fast, easy to use and maintain and produces higher resolution film than competing microfilm archiving systems. It has special features that enable the reproduction of large format drawings and maps. The first customer to adopt this technology is a large private medical record service bureau (EDCO Group) that scans and archives more than one million documents per day for hospitals in the US.

According to EDCO the film output was sharper and more consistent than they had expected (Fujifilm Press Center, 2006). There are apparently a number of European manufacturers of 16, 35 and 105mm digital to analogue archive writers manufactured by Zeutschel, Microbox and SMA (Varendorff, 2006).

Within this context the National Library of South Africa decided to investigate means of producing microfilm directly from newspaper printstream. Thus adding another reformatting strategy namely from digital to film. In summary we would then have the following options for newspaper reformatting:

- Paper to film (mostly older newspapers)
- Film to digital (from good quality film)
- Paper to digital (cut out microfilm)
- Digital to film (ignore the paper copy)

Early in 2006 an opportunity presented itself to do a test run. Two partners were interested to participate namely Metrofile and Media24. The purpose of the project would be to test computer-output-microfilm from original newspaper printstream at the National Library of South Africa.

Metrofile is a South African market leader in the management of paper records and electronic repositories. The NLSA has a long-standing working relationship with Metrofile. The newspaper collections of the NLSA are presently stored and managed offsite at warehouse facilities provided by Metrofile. Metrofile converts large volumes of paper

documents to analogue or digital format.

Media24 is one of South Africa's largest publishing groups with interests in newspapers, magazines, book publishing, printing plants and distribution companies. With a daily circulation of about 800 000 Media24's dailies account for a large portion of the South African national newspaper circulation figures.

Die Burger, published by Media24, is a typical example of a newspaper that is printed by way of electronic desktop means. Die Burger is the biggest daily newspaper in the Western Cape. Separate editions are published for the Western and Eastern Cape. Die Burger is at the forefront of technological developments with its daily internet edition, electronic archiving on the internet and electronic page make-up. Die Burger is microfilmed at the NLSA. A proportion of the costs of microfilming are shared with Die Burger. One set on microfilm is supplied to Die Burger.

It was agreed that Die Burger would provide the printstream of one of its newspapers in PDF format to Metrofile. Metrofile would then produce the computer-output-microfilm and supply to the NLSA for testing. The first test was done on a Kodak digital-to-film Archive Writer at Metrofile. The result was presented on 16mm microfilm. Unfortunately parts of the text were out of focus and thus not legible. The PDF files were then sent to the US for reproduction on 35mm microfilm with good results.

Due to the limited availability of digital-to-microfilm archiving equipment in South Africa at the time of testing, only two tests were done. The project however displayed the possibilities and willingness of the partners involved. It seems that 16mm microfilm is not yet suitable for the digital-to-film reproduction of large format documents such as newspapers. The results on 35mm microfilm looked promising. Further research will be done taking into account other service providers as well.

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	Date : 24/05/2007
	<p>STRATEGIES FOR INCREASED ACCESS TO OLDER NEWSPAPERS: THE EXPERIENCE OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY AFRICANA/SPECIAL COLLECTION SECTION</p> <p>Margaret Nakiganda Librarian, Makerere University Library P.O. Box 7062 Kampala, Uganda Fax: 256 41 540374 Mobile: 256 772 517185 E-mail: nakiganda@mulib.mak.ac.ug</p>
Meeting	I03 Newspapers
Simultaneous Interpretation	No
<p>WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa http://www.ifla.org/iv/ifla73/index.htm</p>	

Abstract:

Makerere University Library has served as a Uganda National Reference Library since the enactment of a Legal Deposit Law in 1958. This has compelled every printer and publisher of books, newspapers,

periodicals and magazines produced in Uganda to deposit a free copy to Makerere University Library within one month after publication. Since then, Makerere University Library established an Africana/Special Collection Section as its Legal

Depository. Among the legal depository treasures is the collection of Newspapers, both government and private, dating as far back as 1900. Currently, the Unit has 67 titles of Newspapers totaling to 2,457 volumes. 29 titles are in English

Language while the rest are in Local Ugandan languages. The newspapers have a very high demand from local and international University students, academic and non-academic staff, as well as researchers, lawyers,

politicians, teachers, etc. This makes it important to increase access to these vital resources as well as to preserve them. Consequently, in 1972 a Microfilm Unit was established and equipment acquired. However, the equipment has now become obsolete and some consumables are no longer available locally. Recently, the library launched a Digitization initiative as an institutional repository to revamp the collection. This paper highlights the activities of the Africana Section in preserving and increasing access to older newspapers. Finally the paper outlines the strategies put in place to ensure increased access to newspapers.

1. INTRODUCTION

Makerere University is the oldest University in East Africa. It started in 1922 as a technical institution and a center of higher education for the three East African countries of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania (then Tanganyika). The decolonization processes of the 1960's and the struggles for self rule by the three East African countries made an East African University project less viable; so with Independence, each country went its own way and established its own national university. Makerere followed suit and became a national university in 1970 after an Act of Parliament with the mandate to produce knowledgeable and skilled manpower, carry out research and provide community services (Byaruhanga 1997:1). Over the years, Makerere University academic programmes and student numbers have continued to grow as well as the demand

for library services and facilities.

Makerere University Library was established in 1940, emerging from a small tutors library. Since its inception the library has grown tremendously and prides itself in its unique collection of rare materials on African and Africans generally, but Uganda in particular. Makerere University Library's vision is to provide excellent library and information services. The mission is to meet the study, teaching and research information needs for sustainable national and regional development.

Makerere University Library has served as Uganda's National Reference Library since the enactment of a Legal Deposit Law in 1958. This has compelled every printer and publisher of books, newspapers, periodicals and magazines produced in Uganda to deposit a free copy to Makerere University Library within one month after publication. As a result, Makerere University Library established an Africana Special Collection referred to as "Africana Section" as its Legal Depository Centre. Among the legal depository treasures is the collection of Newspapers, both government and private, dating as far back as 1900. The newspapers have a very high demand from local and international University students and academic and non-academic staff, as well as researchers, lawyers, politicians, teachers etc.. This makes it important to increase access to these vital resources as well as preserving them in a suitable format.

Makerere University Library has been serving as the National Reference Library till 2000 when the National Library of Uganda was established by the Act of Parliament. Makerere University Library now serves as a second legal depository. Most importantly, Makerere University Library, as one of the first legal depositories in Uganda is the only institution which has maintained a relatively extensive collection of Newspapers and as such, it remains a focal reference point for all researchers. As newspapers accumulate, the institution faces a challenge of storage space; and as users increase, the print versions of newspapers get worn out, and mutilated. This makes it imperative to preserve the newspapers in non-print formats which would also increase multiple accesses of the same newspapers.

2. IMPORTANCE OF NEWSPAPERS

Uganda has gone through hard times under military governments characterized by wars and civil strife. Makerere University did not escape the ravages of these events. Literally work was greatly affected. The few Newspapers that were running by then were censored leaving out facts and events of that particular period. This reminds me of Tarcisio's quotation of President Thomas Jefferson of the USA (1800-1908) who used to say "that if it were a question of having a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government he would choose the latter". He thought in fact that mass communications were guardians of all other liberties; without free recording of events and

free discussions of policies democracy could not endure (Tarcisio, 2000).

Newspapers record, print/publish stories of the events that are important to society at the time. They are authoritative and credible records of the significant issues and events as and when they occurred. They provide excellent memories of a country's historical events and land marks. They are sources of textual evidence, useful to researchers, journalists, lawyers, politicians and the community at large. Howell (1996) describes them as "irreplaceable documents which provide vivid accounts of local places, events and people. West (1983) maintains that "there is no resource of local history as evocative of the atmosphere of any 19th century town as its local newspaper". But Stoker (1999) points out that "newspapers were never intended by their producers to be a permanent means of storing textual information, and the recognition that they contain a mass of valuable information not available elsewhere, is only a comparatively recent phenomenon". Therefore, being a valuable tool for reference there is need to preserve and protect them from theft, fire, mutilation and any other destruction that may lead to loss of information. Increased access is also paramount.

3. CURRENT STATUS OF NEWSPAPERS AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The Newspaper collection has grown tremendously in the recent past. Many newspapers in both local

and English languages have come up. Currently, the Unit has 67 titles of Newspapers totaling to 2,457 volumes. Twenty-nine (29) titles are in English Language (i.e. Mengo Notes, 1900-1970; The Uganda Herald, 1916-1955) while the rest are in Local Ugandan languages (i.e. Munno 1901-1996 and Taifa Empya 1961-1989). Makerere University Library has three microfilmed titles (i.e. Uganda Herald 1924-1934; Reporter 1961-1966; and Uganda Argus 1955-1962. Although this preserves the newspapers and is better than the print format, digitization is preferred because it would save space and increase access by many users. Makerere University Library plans to embark on digitization of newspapers as well as converting microfilm records into digitized records

4. NEWSPAPER USAGE

The Newspaper Unit attracts many users of different categories who frequently come to consult e.g. Journalists, Politicians, Lawyers, Historians, Researchers, Teachers, etc. A short study was carried out in two (2) months, and during this time 15 users were interviewed who included historians, Journalists, Teachers, Lawyers and Researchers.

4.1 Historians

During the colonial days (i.e. 1900) Church Missionaries played the role of establishing schools and hospitals throughout the country. For proper administration of those institutions, they started an English monthly paper called "Mengo Notes". This paper used to be the communication channel of

reporting activities from various parts of the country. One of the historians says that he consults newspapers for basic information to further his findings on how this country was governed. Another historian narrates that newspapers present events and opinions that are made public, such issues are open to criticism, correction, falsification and acceptance depending on their level of coherence and validity. Today the issue of land grabbing and disputes has cropped up due to the displacement of people during the successive wars (i.e. 1979, 1981-1986). Therefore, he consults Newspaper archives for reference on how land issues were being handled by then.

4.2 Journalists

During the misrule of Idi Amin (1971-1979) there was no freedom of Press in Uganda. People lived in fear and literary work were limited. Very few papers were running by then. For example, Voice of Uganda was the Government paper in English and Uganda Eyogera (translated as Uganda Talks) in the local Luganda language. Mukholi a journalist of the government paper (New Vision) compiles events of 1960-1980s comparing them to the events of today. He stresses that it is only in newspapers where he can get how the trend of events occurred. Besides, many events occur in society, natural and unnatural, incidentally, not all such events could be edited in 'formal and serious academic books'. Consequently newspapers offer a good option of coding and storing such information lest it withers with time and space and gets distorted or extinct.. They give you the feel of that particular time." Thus,

newspapers are a useful reference tool.

4.3 Teachers of Primary, Secondary Schools and other Institutions

The 1979 war which ousted Idi Amin left almost every sector disgruntled. Most of the institutions and homes were ransacked into and records were destroyed. Fortunately, Makerere University Library Strongroom for Archives was spared. When I approached the teachers they told me that they were looking for lists of their names published in newspapers of 1960-1980. Lists of successful candidates used to be published in the Newspapers. They were Primary, Secondary and other institutions teachers who want to upgrade but have no authentic records of credentials to certify their attendance in the previous institutions of learning. To them the Newspapers serve as the basis for consideration for admission to higher levels of learning.

4.4 Lawyers

Talking to one of the Lawyers, he says he consults newspapers for reference to certain cases in courts which were run and left incomplete and complainants want to revive the cases. Newspapers used to publish the proceedings of courts which can be a basis of primary source of information to revive the cases.

4.5 Researchers

One researcher stated "that while a research study could be carried out by employing interviews and questionnaires, newspapers could offer another methodological option. Depending on what one is carrying his or her research

study about, a documentary analysis of news reports in papers could be an alternative to interviews and questionnaires in data collection." He continued to say that "they may have their own limitations of spreading rumours and false propaganda but if their writers and editors are inspired by integrity, responsibility and goodwill, newspapers are a mirror that reflects society's image at a particular time. Consequently, one ought to read them with a critical mind".

5. STRATEGIES

Given the high demand for Newspapers, Makerere University Library has gone ahead to put some measures in place to save the precious collection as outlined below:

5.1 Appropriate Planning

As a provider of excellent information services, Makerere University Library has been able to attract funding for most of its proposals to modernize the services. The donors include Carnegies Corporation of New York, EU, SIDA/SAREC and NORD. Makerere University Library current Strategic Plan has as one of its strategic objective to preserve and conserve the newspapers.

5.2 Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The computer-library user ratio is improving with acquisition of more computers, services, etc. The digitized newspapers would then be put on a local (server to save bandwidth) and this would increase accessibility of the newspapers.

5.3 Microfilming

Microfilm according to the web definition is material photographed onto reels of film and needing a special reader to use. Many journal and newspaper back runs are stored in this format. The term 'microfilm' used to describe film that is used to store by photographic means, at greatly reduced size, facsimile images of a great number of original items, documents, pages of books etc. Newspaper prints are of poor quality paper with a relatively short life span and are classified as being too fragile for constant handling by the library users. Considering that fact, it is important to microfilm newspapers, and copies are made so that both the information and the originals can be preserved for future reference and research. Microfilming may have its limitations, but it is still the appropriate solution in low income countries. According to Tabb (2000), microfilming, while not perfect, has proven to be an effective technology for rescuing brittle paper and for facilitating access to endangered research materials. Microfilming created in accordance with international standards has succeeded in preserving millions of newspaper pages that would otherwise have crumbled into uselessness. It has also enabled innumerable number of readers in distant location to gain access to the content of newspapers that they otherwise could not have used.

In an effort to save the constantly used collection, Makerere University Library revived its Microfilming Unit in 2000 (it had stopped in the

1980's) with assistance of the European Union under the Human Rights Development Programme. Experts from Universities of England Consortium for International Activities (UNECIA) trained eight members of Makerere University Library staff in Microfilm & Photography. The objective of the training was to systematically carry out microfilming of materials for conservation and information purposes, thus reducing the handling of original materials some of which is unique. The mission of the training was to establish, equip staff and manage a microfilm/photographic unit capable of satisfying the teaching, learning, research needs of Makerere by way of preserving, conserving and maintaining library collection, as well as sustaining itself by raising funds through its activities (Training Manual, 2000). At present there are three (3) microfilmed titles as already reported. Plans are underway to acquire modern equipment that can produce both 16mm and 35mm sheets. Currently, the unit produces 16 mm film width materials only.

5.4 Digitization

There is a digitization project currently going on in the library. It is a collaboration Program between the Libraries at the University of Bergen, University of Tennessee and Makerere University. The project started with digitizing research output in Science-based disciplines, and later expanded to Arts and Humanities. The major objective is to create an institutional repository which can be accessed online: One of the specific objectives is to develop a mechanism for collection,

storage and preservation of all national documents and other formats of data for future use (USDL Project Proposal, 2004). A reasonable number of relevant documents already exists in the Africana/Special Collections section through the Legal Deposit Act as already indicated.

The Library plans to acquire appropriated equipment to expand the digitization project to include newspapers. Once the equipment is acquired, microfilmed papers would also be converted into digital records.

5.5 Skilled Manpower

For proper management, the newspaper collection, and indeed the archival collection, need a professional archivist. The Library recently advertised the post of an Archivist and once this is filled, it will go a long way to address the newspaper problem.

5.6 Indexing of Newspapers

Indexing of important events in the newspapers is also very useful as a quick access tool. It is an improvement of existing access points and it is been planned once the archivist is appointed.

5.7 Library Building Extension

Makerere University Library recently added 4,000 sq.metres to its existing space. This will provide space for library users and equipment needed to preserve and conserve newspapers.

6. CONCLUSION

With the expansion of the library building, more space for reading and storage of ICT equipment

has been created. Increased ICT infrastructure and equipment will also increase access to newspapers. Resource mobilization and preservation and conservation are priority issues in the Library Strategic Plan.. This, for example, emphasizes promotion and facilitation of research, needs assessment of the conservation and preservation activities and digitizing and microfilming of rare collection. The strategies and planned activities will increase accessibility to newspapers as well as preserving and conserving them.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to acknowledge Dr. Maria Musoke who edited this paper.

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	Date : 25/05/2007
	<p>Presentation for Panel on African Newspapers: Access and Technology</p> <p>INITIATIVES IN KENYA FOR DIGITIZING, INDEXING AND PRESERVING NEWSPAPERS</p> <p>Pamela Howard-Reguindin Field Director Library of Congress Office Nairobi, Kenya PamelaHR@loc.gov</p>
Meeting	103 Newspapers
Simultaneous Interpretation	No
<p>WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa http://www.ifla.org/iv/ifla73/index.htm</p>	

Abstract:

In my presentation/paper I propose to cover the effects of technology on Kenyan newspapers and the status of digitization of these newspapers, the "Indexkenya.org Project" and what the Library of Congress Nairobi Office is doing about older runs of sub-Saharan African newspapers. The two major Kenyan dailies are taking full advantage of the new technologies available

to them and offer online access via aggregators' websites and a variety of digital services including SMS-ing of news headline. They also have plans for bringing up older editions of their newspapers online.

The Indexkenya Project selectively indexes a number of Kenyan newspapers, starting from 1980, digitizes the articles and makes them available for a modest price to researchers. The Library

of Congress Office, Nairobi has been collecting newspapers since it opened in 1966. Many newspaper titles from some 29 sub-Saharan countries are currently microfilmed by the Library, but many more remain in our backlog. Although LC is committed to retaining and microfilming these newspapers, we need to enter into cooperative agreements or partnerships to pay for future preservation of these titles.

Last year, in cooperation with the Cooperative Africana Microfilm Project and the Center for Research Libraries, we managed to microfilm some 45,000 pages of Malawian newspapers from 1985-2005 but we have older newspapers from many other countries still in need of preservation. I will also discuss the challenges LC has in digitizing newspapers in general.

DIGITIZED KENYAN NEWSPAPERS

There are two major English-language Kenyan independent daily newspapers, the *Daily Nation*, Kenya's leading newspaper owned by the Aga Khan and published by the Nation Media Group, and the *Standard* (formerly *East African Standard*), which is Kenya's oldest newspaper, published by the Standard Group. Both have been available online since 2002. Currently, the online holdings for the *Daily Nation* date back to 1998 and for *The Standard* to 2002. The leading regional weekly *The East African*, published by Nation Media Group is also available online with files going back to 1998. *Taifa Leo*, also published by Nation Media Group, is the only Swahili newspaper online and is only available through NewsStand. (need to check how far back avail online...) The newest addition to Kenyan online newspapers "born digital" and launched in March 2007, *Business Daily*, also published by Nation Media Group, promises to be a smashing success considering the current interest level in entrepreneurship in the country.

All of these newspapers have embraced new technologies to produce their newspapers, to distribute their content and to archive their earlier editions. The managing editors of both the *Daily Nation* and *Standard* realize that they must adopt new technology or fall into oblivion as has happened with some of their competitors. They are using new software to

produce their newspapers as "born digital" materials, and use mobile phones and text messages of headlines as teasers to promote and increase sales of both the online and hard copies. They have also signed agreements with online aggregators such as NewsStand and NewspaperDirect to increase sales on a worldwide basis and RSS feeds as well. Their strategy is working and both newspaper editors report that sales of online, as well as hardcopy issues are growing.

Already they perceive that



younger readers are demanding better website interfaces for their online versions and recognize that online newspapers must be enhanced or reformatted for better display and that simply reproducing the printed version (as is the case so far with *Taifa Leo*) is not acceptable. The *Daily Nation* is working on a new website "Nation Digital" that will include text messages via mobile phones, online news/chat rooms, RSS, and new specialized announcements and services such as sports scores, stock prices, and horoscopes. *The Standard* reports that they are currently getting around three million hits per day for their website, most coming from outside of Kenya, but a steadily increasing number from within the country as internet access penetrates

more Kenyan businesses, schools and households.

The Standard has microfilmed copies of its newspaper from 1902-1990 and does have plans to digitize the entire run as funds become available. The *Daily Nation* also has plans to digitize all runs back to 1960 but is running into problems with compatibility issues with the former production system, funding and search features.

KENYA INDEXING PROJECT FOR NEWSPAPERS

This project was initiated by the former director of the Library of Congress Office in Nairobi, Kenya upon her retirement from the Library, Ruth Anna Thomas. A well-known figure in the arena of Africana library services, she noted the complete absence of online newspaper indexing in Kenya and perceived the need for subject access to Kenya's older newspapers, especially in the area of cultural affairs. In 2001, she was granted funding from the Ford Foundation to open an office, purchase equipment, hire staff and get the project underway.

The initial objective of the project was to compile a computer-based index of the articles published in the major Nairobi newspapers from 1980 onwards covering the cultural affairs of this country including mainly music, dance, theater, literature and art. Subsequently the topics

covered by the index expanded to include reproductive health, law/governance affairs, and various other topics about which information relevant to Kenya is rather difficult to obtain such as, child labor, pensions, copyright and others. A short term grant was secured from the International Development Research Centre to do the legal indexing but as of 2003, the Ford Foundation funded all of the indexing being undertaken.

This unique computer-based index is mounted on the website <http://www.Indexkenya.org> and is updated on a regular basis. The office staff searches the newspapers to identify relevant articles, inputs the basic citation for each article selected, photocopies and scans each article and archives the copies, assigns subject access terms using the *Library of Congress Subject Headings* thesaurus, proofread and edit entries. The database is searchable by the following fields:



- Author and title of the article
- Title, date and issue number of the newspaper
- Author and title of any book reviewed
- Banner title pertaining to a number of individual articles
- Subject terms relevant to the content of the article.

To date, there are approximately 70,000 articles indexed from 1982-2002 that have been indexed and edited. Of these, nearly 27,000 articles are presently cited on the website. The newspapers being indexed selectively are: *Daily Nation*, *The East African* and *The Standard*. Copies of the actual articles reflected in the index may be ordered through the Document Delivery Service of the Indexing Project at info@Indexkenya.org.

In late 2005, the Ford Foundation Office in Nairobi asked the Kenya Index project to produce a spin-off database in CD-Rom format of the newspaper articles concerned with gender issues published from 1985-2005. The CD contains some 3,651 digitized images of the actual articles from seven Nairobi newspapers.



GenderIssues CD-Rom

The project director sought a legal opinion in Kenya about the legality of including the full content of the newspaper articles on the CD. The advice obtained made it clear that as long as credit was given to the journalist and newspaper that published the article, and that the CD would not be sold and was for educational use only, the provision of "fair use" in copyright law would allow the inclusion of the full content of the articles. Some 3,000 copies of the

CD were made by the Human Info organization in Romania and distributed free of charge in Kenya. One thousand CDs were given to the participants of the Gender Conference held in Nairobi on 28 October 2006 and the others were given to university libraries. If you would like a copy, email the project at the address above

ACTIVITIES OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NAIROBI OFFICE FOR NEWSPAPER PRESERVATION

The systematic and assiduous acquisition, processing and preservation of an increasing number of sub-Saharan African newspapers have been important functions of the Library of Congress Office, Nairobi since it opened in 1966. Once the newspapers have been acquired they enter several different streams for further processing and microfilming. Some are sent directly to the Library of Congress for microfilming, others are sent to

the New Delhi office for microfilming and later the processed film is shipped to the Library in Washington, D.C. Other, newer titles are retained in the office for eventual filming whenever funds become available. Hundreds, if not thousands, of newspaper titles from some 29 sub-Saharan countries have already been microfilmed and dozens more are filmed on an annual basis by the Library and its office in New Delhi, India. In spite of this laudable work,

many more newspaper titles and corresponding issues remain in our ever-growing backlog as evidenced in these pictures.



David Mbaya sorts thousands of newspaper issues per year for the Library and 35 AfriCAP libraries.

Currently, there are 10 sub-Saharan titles being sent directly to the Library in Washington, DC for treatment.

(See: www.loc.gov/acq/ovop/nairobi/lc_npapers.html for the list). Another 115 titles are sent to the Library's office in New Delhi where the Library maintains a substantial microfilming operation with several cameras and camera operators

working overtime to film as much as possible. (See: www.loc.gov/acq/ovop/nairobi/nd_npapers.pdf)

Although LC is committed to retaining and microfilming these newspapers, we need to enter into cooperative agreements to underwrite the future preservation of these titles. Last year, in cooperation with the Cooperative Africana Microfilm Project and the Center for Research Libraries, we managed to microfilm some 45,000 pages of Malawian newspapers from 1985-2005 at a cost of about \$20,000 but we have older

newspapers from many other countries in our backlog still in dire need of preservation before they turn into dust.

It is also worth noting, that the Nairobi Office also supplies dozens of newspaper titles to major U.S. academic libraries via the AfriCAP (Africa Cooperative Acquisitions

Program). The chart below indicates the countries covered. The Nairobi Office does acquire newspapers from other African countries for LC, but not necessarily for all AfriCAP participants.

Countries Covered by the AfriCAP for Newspapers...

BOTSWANA	BURUNDI	
Cameroon	Ghana	KENYA
Malawi	Mauritius	Namibia
<i>Rwanda</i>	<i>Senegal</i>	
Swaziland	Tanzania	UGANDA
ZAMBIA	Zimbabwe	

In partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library is participating in the National Digital Newspaper Program which aims to digitize historically significant U.S. newspapers from 1836-1922 (the cutoff date for copyright-free materials in the public domain). However, because of copyright issues and restrictions, the Library's Overseas Offices have not yet initiated systematic digitization of these newspapers. We do selectively scan articles upon request, mostly for lawyers doing *pro bono* work on behalf of asylum seekers or new immigrants.

We do seem to be even at risk for microfilming, much less digitizing. For example, when an Indian newspaper threatened a copyright infringement lawsuit in Indian courts against the Library for having microfilmed their newspaper, the Library's Office of General Counsel recommended that the New Delhi office cease and desist microfilming the newspaper. This was an extreme case as, in general, we assume that we are covered for microfilming by "fair use" laws. However, since libraries are not copyright holders of newspaper content, it would seem that digitization of these materials must wait until the copyright holders themselves, or rather the newspaper owners, agree to digitize their papers alone or in agreement with commercial or other partners.

In closing, it appears that Kenyan newspaper publishers are well informed and keeping abreast with trends in digitizing their news outlets. As Internet access gains momentum, the expectation is that sales will go up and their newspapers will be even more widely read, either electronically or in hardcopy. A harbinger of indexing and better access to Kenyan newspapers is the Kenyaindex.org Project, which is proceeding well at the moment. Funding is always a challenge and it is expected that specialized projects will help to keep this project going. The Library of Congress Nairobi Office will continue to collect, microfilm and preserve sub-Saharan African newspapers and search for new partners to enhance

access to these valuable primary resource materials. One possible role of Kenyan librarians would be to encourage the newspaper managers to offer internet access to full content of the articles free of charge to Kenyan schools and universities. Indeed, this could be a role for any national African library association. Many journal publishers located in the U.S. and Europe are now allowing internet users in developing countries to access full content of journal articles without charge. If this open access could be offered to Kenya newspaper readers, the information in the daily press could strengthen efforts in governance and democratization, literacy and responsible civic leadership.

WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL

Durban, South Africa, August 2007
Session 103 *African Newspapers: Access and Technology*. 20 August 2007

Organized by the IFLA Newspapers Section, this session attracted over 100 delegates. The Session was moderated by Dale Peters, University of KwaZulu,-Natal, South Africa. Presentations included the situation in Kenya, at Makerere University in Uganda, and at the National Library of South Africa, together with details of the work of the CAMP co-operative in the U.S.A. The full text of the papers are available at: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/Programme2007.htm>

Papers were short, to allow as much time as possible for discussion of issues arising.

To start the discussion, a question was posed regarding digital standards for newspaper preservation. These need to be defined and adhered to in the future. Martha Roberts asked if the indexing could be used in Uganda. Pamela Howard-Reguindin replied that it might be used but that it would need more money to be made available for the system to be developed. Grace Jackson asked if other newspapers would be digitized. Dorothy Woodson offered that almost every African country now has an online version. However, online versions come and go, and they are often not complete. Papers also differ in the categories of information offered. Newspaper publishers withdrew the issues of back years, which means that they cannot be found. Some 20 South Africa daily newspapers have some form of web presence at present.

Prof. Henry Snyder asked what software was used for online presentation. Pamela Howard could not detail the system. Prof. Snyder stated that in California, they had developed their own solutions to presenting their own data. Further information would be available about this in due course. The website of the *California Digital Newspaper Collection* is at: <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>

Dale Peters requested details of digital partnerships from the audience. Dorothy Woodson thought that newspaper publisher did

not view themselves as necessarily responsible for filming and for storing digital files. Douwe Drijfhout pointed out that copies of the back files of Die Burger are available online in the reading room of the South Africa National Library. Building digital repositories is expensive and organizations needed to collaborate to create and maintain them. Pamela Najar-Simpson of New Zealand agreed with this, adding that publishers were not always willing to give access to their back files of digital newspapers, but that they have been willing to grant permission for microfilming. National Libraries needed to consider how they might use legal deposit to obtain digital files from newspaper publishers, and then to create computer output of the digital files to microfilm (COM).

Galina Kislovskaya (state Library, Moscow, Russia) believed it was good to create COM; however, research in Russia showed that colour microfilm was not archival, so black and white microfilm was the best medium for COM. The price was that users lose the benefit of colour. Douwe Drijfhout thought that colour microfilm was not considered by the National Library of South Africa for COM. Dorothy Woodson stated that it was important to preserve the text (even if only in black and white microfilm), as the original paper will not survive.

Dale Peters urged the audience to consider what users will want in 20 or 50 years time, and what kind of devices that they might use. Dorothy Woodson believed that users will

want the content, and that the format will not concern them very much. Henry Snyder remained concerned about the enormous copyright problems when we think of copying newspapers publisher in the last 50 years or so. As result of his recent experiences in California, he was concerned who will pay to store the large quantities of digital data that results from conversion of the original texts to digital format. He was uncertain that newspaper publishers would pay for the long term costs for storing digital data of newspapers.

Prof. Zakiri Mohammed of the Kaslim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria, stated that it will be necessary to make partnerships to avoid the duplication of work in the digitizing of older newspapers. Otherwise, valuable fids would be wasted.

Dale Peters thanked all the speakers and questioners for their participation. In summing up the discussion and the session, Ed King (Secretary, IFLA Newspapers section) pointed out the need for IFLA activity in this area, for activity in mass newspaper digitization was only just beginning. Four themes emerged that required further work by all:

- The need for newspaper publishers to archive online versions of recent newspapers, possibly with national or regional libraries
- The avoidance of duplication of preservation microfilming work, via increased international partnership efforts

- The use of open source software to present digitised newspaper images on the web
- The expense of building digital repositories of newspapers, and the need to seek methods to mitigate such costs

He urged all present to take these messages to their own colleagues and to other organizations in home countries, in order that work could continue to be developed for the benefit of all. The Newspaper Section will continue its work to publicize these issues and advocate solutions.

August 2007

IFLA SATELLITE MEETING ON MOULD , INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AND DUST IN COLLECTIONS.

Durban, Riverside Hotel, 14-16 August 2007.

This meeting was organized by the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section, IFLA-PAC and IFLA Newspapers Section. It attracted 57 delegates. On the 15 August, we were given a series of in-depth talks and practical sessions by Helen Lloyd (National Trust, UK) and David Pinniger (Entomologist, UK). The National Trust has gone to great lengths to establish through scientific experiments and analysis the causes of dust, its distribution throughout National Trust houses, its cementation to artifacts, and the perception of visitors regarding dust. Most of us knew that our shoes bring extensive quantities of dust into such old houses in the UK; however, not many of us knew that we visitors to

gave off the most dust from the area between the shoulder and the waist. Their intensive studies showed that the best distance to place objects on display was 1.5 metres from where visitors passed through each room.

David Pinniger gave a great amount of details on the various insects that are most likely to attack books and documents. He enumerated the characteristics of each insect, and proposed how organizations should adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures. The key points of IPM include:

- Recognize pests and what they need
- Assess the environment of your library or archive
- Assess the pest problem
- Prevent pest from becoming established
- Exclude pests if possible
- Solve pest problems
- Once insects are identified, instigate trapping and control measures

As insects are so successful throughout history, and difficult to remove once established in numbers, that the best measures remain preventative. Removing (as far as possible) their food sources, warmth; humidity and harbourage (living quarters) is effective. We all were all tested in the recognition of insects in a practical session, and this was followed up with measures to implement IPM, once pests had been identified and could be targeted with various kinds of chemical and non-chemical treatment. In parallel sessions, Helen Lloyd instructed us in practical ways to monitor dust, together with

measures to prevent and control build-up of dust.

On the morning of day 2 (16 August), Diane Vogt-O'Conner (Library of Congress, USA), took us through a great quantity of information relating to mould, with telling slides illustrating the kind of damage moulds and make to paper. With the whole earth depending upon the work of moulds to decompose all kinds of matter, and with 300,000 species of mould known to exist, there is no chance of mould being eradicated from libraries and archives, as it is in the very air that we all breathe. As with pests, the best form of treatment is to create and sustain environmental conditions in which the risk of mould is unlikely to occur. Sustained relative humidity in buildings above 60% increases the risk a mould outbreak significantly. In the afternoon of day 2, Molebelli Botlhole (University of Botswana) gave an overview of mould, dust and pest infestation in four Botswana institutions. This was a frank assessment of some successes, but also of shortcomings, which still need remedy. Phillippe Vallas then outlined the methods used at the Bibliotheque nationale de France. Particularly impressive is the systematic way in which all new acquisitions are screened for micro-bacteria, and steps taken to deal with those that are found. Peter Coates rounded off the speaker presentations with an account of mould treatment work at the Cape Town Archives repository. His slides and talk showed vividly how long it takes to treat individual pages of paper, which have been damaged by mould.

We all learned that more advocacy is needed by all those engaged in the profession to raise awareness of all staff in libraries and in archives of the great difficulties and costs of dealing with pests and mould. Prevention remains the best cure of all!

Thanks were given to Douwe Drifjhout, Johann Maree and all their colleagues for working so hard to make the event a success.

Ed King
August 2007

Papers to be presented at the IFLA International Newspaper Conference 2008:

Track 1: Physical and Digital Preservation of Newspapers

1. Major issues in the use of newspaper materials in education: Critical role of librarian in the preparation of newspaper materials for

education and the development of appropriate information literacy programme

2. The importance of partnerships for newspaper preservation

3. The Australian Newspaper Plan: Preserving for permanent access

Parallel Session A:
Digitisation of Historic Newspapers: Approaches and Challenges

4. Approaches to digitising 19th century texts

5. Digitising historic newspapers in Germany: the case of Bavaria

6. Newspaper digitisation in the Netherlands - The Dutch Digital Databank for newspapers and other initiatives

Parallel Session B:
Challenges and Opportunities in Digitisation Projects

7. Preserving and digitising California newspapers: Challenges, opportunities and problems

8. New Access to Old Materials: The Hong Kong Newspaper Literary Supplement Digitisation Project

9. Quality microfilm as the key to success and access

Track 1: Physical and Digital Preservation of Newspapers – the issues of Legal Deposit and Copyright

10. Newspaper Acquisitions at the Library of Congress: considering copyright and “best edition” in a digital environment

11. Digital Ingest of Current Newspapers at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France – the situation end 2007

12. Digitisation and distribution of public domain and copyrighted newspapers

Track 2: Service and Access Models of Southeast Asian Newspapers

13. Cooperative efforts in preservation of and access to the world’s newspapers

14. Service and Processing Of Newspaper In Supporting Research: A Case Study at Seven Libraries of Universities in Surabaya

15. Adopting an open-access approach to the newspaper collection at the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library, Singapore: A case study

Track 3: Online Newspapers

16. Online Newspapers: A new era

17. Newslink 2.0: Major issues in the development of Singapore Press Holdings multimedia news archives

18. All news, but no paper – harvesting Swedish online newspapers

NEWS FROM THE IFLA SECTION ON NEWSPAPERS

SANDRA BURROWS, NEWS EDITOR, RETIRES

Late last summer, Sandra Burrows, longtime editor of the *News from the IFLA Section on Newspapers* newsletter announced her retirement after thirty years with Library and Archives Canada as newspaper specialist.

Over the years, Sandra has authored and presented a number of papers, articles and indices concerning the history and preservation of and access to Canada’s newspapers. Her latest paper, “The Evolution of the Aboriginal Presses in Canada”, was presented at the IFLA Newspaper Section Annual Conference in Santiago, Chile in April, 2007.

Else Delaunay of Bibliothèque Nationale de France (BnF) speaks for all of us when she says: "Sandra has been not only an efficient and very professional member of the Newspapers Section, she is also a wonderful person, always enthusiastic and full of life, ready to help and take over difficult tasks, indeed a very sweet and lovely colleague whom I shall miss very much."

In her retirement announcement to her IFLA colleagues she said: “I would like to wish you all the best in your continuing quest to preserve newspapers and make them accessible to everyone.”

We wish you the best too, Sandy! May we extend our thanks and deep gratitude for your work with the IFLA Newspaper Section.

