

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE

We are honoured to have the following international speakers on our programme:

Alex Byrne, Keynote Speaker: President-elect 2003-2005 of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), will be President 2005-2007 and chaired IFLA's Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression 1997-2003. He has led the development of a number of IFLA statements and declarations, including the *IFLA/FAIFE Internet Manifesto*, the *Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom* and, recently, the *IFLA Statement on Open Access to Scholarly Literature and Research Documentation* which was approved last December. In his professional life, Alex is the University Librarian and a Deputy Chair of the Academic Board at the University of Technology, Sydney. UTS Library is recognised to be one of the leaders in the development of digital libraries in Australia. The Library launched a digital press, UTSePress, in January this year.

Helena Asamoah-Hassan, University Librarian at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana from October 2000 to date. She is responsible for the overall running of the entire University Library system and provision of professional and administrative leadership of the library. She has written many publications and reports and regularly read conference papers; the most recent at the 2004 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires. She serves on various Boards and Committees within and outside of the University and received many honours and awards; the most recent being awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship, Lions Clubs International, LCIF 2004. She is currently the President of the Ghana Library Association; Member of the IFLA Africa Section, and Country Coordinator for Ghana, Electronic Information for Libraries Network (eIFL.net).

Dato' Zawiyah Baba, Director General of the National Library of Malaysia is also the President of the Malaysia Library Association. We look forward to her perspectives and insights and to forging long-standing relationships for the future.

Kathryn Harris, Division Manager for Library Services at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library (ALPL) since March 2004. Previously she worked in various public and University libraries. She joined the staff of the Illinois State Historical Library in 1990 and served as Director since 1996. She served on the Executive Board of the Illinois Library Association and as Past President (2003 - 2004). She is on the Board of the Abraham Lincoln Association; currently the President of the Sangamon County Historical Society and a member of the American Association of University Women. A highlight of her professional career is being involved with the planning and development of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. The construction of the Library portion of this complex is nearing completion and opening day is due in late September 2004. She has been involved in planning the "storyline" for the exhibits that will be in the Museum and is looking forward to its "Opening Day" in Spring, 2005.

Hannelore Vogt, Chief Librarian of the city library in Würzburg, Germany. Her initial responsibilities in Würzburg included supervising the construction and renovation of the library, introduction of EDP and reorganization of the operational procedure. In 2003 she got her PhD in Cultural Management; her topic was „Customer Satisfaction in Public Libraries“. Mrs Vogt is a member of the DBV Library Management Commission, sits on the advisory council of the Bavarian Library Association and is a member of the Bertelsmann Foundation International Network of Public Libraries. Würzburg City Library got the „Bavarian Online Award 2003“, was the winner in the national library ranking 2003 (BIX) and was elected „Library of the Year“ 2003“.

Other highlights on the programme not to miss: **Session 3**, three very interesting papers on the newly formed National Council on Libraries and Information Services (NCLIS) and **Session 4**, update and information session of IFLA 2007, Durban, South Africa.