

IFLA PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS

We asked Australians at IFLA to tell us some of their favourite moments – astonishing, inspiring, provocative, career-affirming.

'Harald Mueller's proposed solution for hesitation on the part of governments to legislate for electronic intellectual property: "Librarians should start more court cases!"
Alyson Dalby, University of NSW.

'AgroLib JA: empowering farmers to connect share and grow. This library project and service increased farmers knowledge, IT skills, sales and income. Truly transformational and extremely powerful.'
Grace Saw, Queensland.

'I was very impressed with the talk Digital collection strategies at the National Diet Library (NDL), Japan. The Copyright Act was revised in 2009 to enable the NDL to digitise even holdings within copyright protection period for the purpose of preservation and to provide them in digital form within the NDL facilities. The Copyright Act was further amended in 2012 to allow the NDL to transmit copies of out-of-print items to public and academic libraries in Japan.'
Heather Todd, University of Queensland Library.

'Which IFLA paper inspired me most?
Francisco J. Martinez-Calvo, speaking for the National Organisation of Spanish Blind Persons about the 30 plus years road to achieving the 2013 UN Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled.'
Marie-Louise Ayres, National Library of Australia.

'Discussing the cultural changes at the British library with their new Director-General, Roly Keating over drinks at the Australian High Commission; barefoot on the sand at Sentosa Beach at the Cultural Evening talking details of the latest improvements in public libraries in Sweden with the fabulous Inga Lunden; meeting with the makers of our newest digital equipment at the trade exhibition opening or a quick lunch with colleagues from the BNF – all priceless in one concentrated five day period.'
Alan Smith, State Library of SA.

'The juxtaposition of Chris Tang's eloquent description of the wonderful Singapore Memory Project with blogger Alex Au's comments on what can and cannot be said and read in Singapore. Together they present our challenge to advance unfettered access to information.'
Alex Byrne, State Library of NSW.

'The numbers at Chinese institutions are staggering. Guangzhou Library has an average of 10,000 readers per day.'
Vicki McDonald, State Library of NSW.

'One of the speakers, the Chairman of Elsevier, Y S Chi, predicted that ebooks will be gone by 2017 and that ereaders are the AOL of the '90s. Augmented reality books are interactive and non linear; storytelling will change and will not be the same way that we experience the world of reading now. But he also said that the eternal book is not going anywhere, there is not a threat to books but a transformation of how people read.'
Christine Mackenzie, Yarra Plenty Regional Library.