

2016 Annual Report

International Library Cultural Exchange Interest Group

Submitted by Janet Lee, Chair, and Nancy Bolt, Board Liaison

November 14, 2016

ILCE-IG has had another successful year building upon past accomplishments. We distributed our first two grants and sponsored our first library focused-international travel. We have presented widely at national and international conferences and traveled extensively.

Of special note, one of our members, **Nancy Bolt**, was awarded the prestigious **John Ames Humphry/OCLC Forest Press Award**. Nancy, of Nancy Bolt & Associates, Arvada, CO and retired Colorado State Librarian was recognized during the International Reception on Monday, June 27, 2015 at the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando. The ALA IRC Humphry Award Subcommittee recognized Bolt's "undaunted passion" in making its selection, noting that her "work with local, national and international audiences has been significant and she has made a great contribution to the field of librarianship and international cooperation." Nancy Bolt is also the 2016 recipient of the American Library Association (ALA) **Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award**. The jury was highly impressed with her wide range of accomplishments and contributions to the profession, all of which underscore her keen ability to bring about innovation and positive change in the field of librarianship. Congratulations, Nancy.

Interest Group Business:

- Held four business meetings.
- Updated Interest Group brochure (revise annually).
- Created additional sections to the Interest Group Web page and frequently posted to the page.
- Blogged and provided content to the Interest Group Web page on an ongoing basis <https://ilceig.wordpress.com/>
- Submitted updates to the CAL newsletter and to IRRT's *International Leads*.
- Produced three issues of the ILCE-IG newsletter: *Navigator: Colorado Libraries and the World* <https://ilceig.wordpress.com/navigator-colorado-libraries-and-the-world-ilce-ig-newsletter/>
- Funding for grants donated from the proceeds of jewelry sales facilitated by Nancy Bolt.
- Sponsored an international reception in the President's suite at the 2015th and 2016th CAL conferences.

Grants Awarded

The Colorado Association of Libraries and the International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group is pleased to announce that University Archives at Colorado State University-Pueblo and the University Library at the University of Colorado at Boulder have both received grants of \$1500 for programs that enhance cultural understanding.

- University Archives at Colorado State University-Pueblo. The CSU-Pueblo Archive's project will support an exhibit and public presentation relating to *La Cucaracha*, a project focusing on the Chicano Movement in the San Luis Valley. The traveling exhibit and presentation will include enlargements of newspaper articles, excerpts from oral history interviews, and artifacts highlighting issues such as bi-lingual education, land grant disputes, discrimination in Pueblo schools, the student movement at CU-Boulder and CSU-Pueblo, and access to health care for Hispanic populations in Pueblo. The exhibit will be on display at the CSU-Pueblo library and then travel throughout the state.
- The University of Colorado at Boulder project seeks to strengthen existing relationships and form new partnerships with international students and student organizations. In the fall of 2015, CU Boulder had a total of 2446 students from over 100 countries. The project will include activities such as an international photo contest on "Libraries and Information Landscapes," an international talent show, and "speed friending."

Presentations:

- ALA Annual in Orlando
 - Nancy Bolt and Janet Lee represented ILCE-IG by presenting during the International Poster Session on Sunday, June 26. The poster, "From Local to Global: How an ALA Chapter Impacts International Librarianship" highlights the progress made by the only state library association that has an organized international round table. The poster features the accomplishments of developing Sister/Partner libraries; cooperation with Sister Cities International; grants, and tours to other countries.
 - Committee member, Jane Mirandette also has a poster accepted, entitled, "Collaboration Works!" about her work with Nicaraguan Libraries.
 - Jane Mirandette and Janet Lee also presented at the International Sustainable Library Development Interest Group. Jane's presentation was "Collaboration Works." Janet's presentation is "Collaborating for Sustainable Libraries: Working with the Diaspora."

- Rita Puig (Regis University) and Jimena Sagas (CSU) presented at La Salle University/Universidad La Salle in Mexico City. The presentation was attended by librarians from three institutions including UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico). Their core message was that of the academic library as a pillar of the university and an agent for social justice.
- IFLA Congress in Columbus, OH. Several members of ILCE-IG participated in the IFLA Congress. Many were first-timers. Some have attended and presented multiple times. 3100 delegates from 120 countries participated in this international congress.
 - Rita Puig, Regis University, and Jimena Sagas, Colorado State University, were named as North American IFLA Fellows with some of their expenses covered by the grant. They participated in an opening reception and were paired with a mentor. From this point forward, they will be part of a unique cohort of librarians who can call upon one another, share experiences, and network.
 - Nancy Bolt and Janet Lee submitted “From Local to Global: How a Local Library Organization Can Impact International Librarianship,” relating the many activities that ILCE-IG has sponsored since its inception such as: mentoring, library partnerships, sister libraries, international travel, programming, advocacy, grants, and international education. The poster was one of approximately 200 that were accepted. Click on this link for a detailed look at the poster and the poster proposal: <http://library.ifla.org/1552/>
 - Rita Puig discusses the Dual Language program at Regis University in “Building an Authentic Bilingual Library: Regis University’s Dual Language Learning Resources Center.”
 - Krystyna, K. Matusiak, Bridget Bowers, Kathryn Bodnar, Frank Andreas Sposito, and Giovanna Montano submitted “An International Collaborative Project between the University of Denver LIS students and the ENSSIB students in Lyon.” For more information on this project, check out the December 2015 issue of *International Leads*, <http://www.ala.org/irrt/sites/ala.org/irrt/files/content/intlleads/leadsarchive/2015r.pdf>
 - Nancy Bolt chaired a panel on “Guidelines for Library Service to People Experiencing Homelessness: Overview and Examples.” (Library Services to People with Special Needs). Panelists spoke on services in the U.S. Croatia, and Japan.
- ILCE-IG presented a panel at the MPLA CAL/conference in Loveland, October 2016: “Library Globetrotters: Library Experience in Five Countries.” Janet Lee introduced the panel of Lisa Priebe who spoke on three years living and using libraries in Whitehaven, Cumbria, England; Nebeyou Nunamo, Aurora Public Library, who compared and contrasted using and working in libraries in his native Ethiopia with libraries in Colorado; Nancy Wood, Branch Manager of the Fairplay branch of the Park County Public Library,

described in typical Liberian storytelling fashion of her twelve years of experience building the first public library in Liberia; and Sue Keefer, Director of the Library Director of the Learning Resource Center of the Otero Junior College, related her experience of a tour of librarians in Nicaragua with the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca. There were 70 librarians in attendance.

- ILCE-IG sponsored a Keynote speaker, Donna Scheeder, IFLA President, during the MPLA/CAL conference in Loveland, October 2016. She spoke on *So People May Know; Access to Information around the World*. The session was well received.
- Sister City Updates
 - A container of books was shipped to Adama, Ethiopia the last week of December, containing books that have been collected and evaluated over the past several months. A joint library subcommittee of ASCI and APL has been constituted and will have its first formal meeting late January. Librarians, ASCI committee members, and stakeholders from Aurora make up the steering committee.
 - **Bénédicté Jarry**, from Brest has provided ILCE-IG with a general date for the grand opening of the new Brest library. The opening was tentatively scheduled for October 2016 but has been postponed. Colorado librarians have been invited to visit Brest for the official opening. Stay tuned for more information.
 - Great progress has also been made at the Axumite Heritage Foundation Library (Denver Sister Cities International, Axum Ethiopia). Six shipping containers of building supplies arrived from Dubai in mid-December. The supplies included floor tiles, aluminum supports, and windows. A special stone façade is being installed.
 - The Poudre River Public Library District provided laptops and training to the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca enabling the SJDS staff to take the Koha catalog on the road to its school libraries, thus reducing manual entry of circulation information.

Travels

- Developed promotional brochure, itinerary, and registration form for Nicaragua trip and posted on web page. Promoted at CAL events.
 - Ten librarians participate in the trip in November, which coincided with a festival at the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca.
 - Travelers included: Nancy Bolt, Bob Hofmann, Janet Lee, Eugene Hainer, Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Kathy Plath, Sue Keefer, Barbara Adesso, Barb Thorne, and host Jane Mirandette.
 - Each traveler contributed a donation to CAL.
 - Library tours included Puedo Leer Library in Granada; a rural medical clinic with a newly-established reading room for children; a school and homeless shelter; the San Juan del Sur Library (SJDS); and several schools in outlying areas, which

were visited by the Biblioteca Movil (a bookmobile—actually two pickups). Many of these libraries were started as a “library in a box;” a tub full of books, simple craft projects to go with the books, and check-out materials.

- Tourist attractions included a trip to the Masaya Volcano, a cultural tour of Granada, zip-lining through the Cloud Forest, a trek to see a large Jesus statue overlooking the bay of San Juan del Sur, a sailboat trip with an optional swim to a beach, and several dining experiences.
- Janet Lee traveled to Kenya with a Regis University colleague and visited two elementary school libraries. She also met with a representative from Worldreader, a program that uses Kindles to supply e-books in local languages.
- Janet Lee also visited Adama, Ethiopia and Axum, Ethiopia, which has Sister Cities in Aurora, CO and Denver, CO respectively. She met with the director of the Adama Science and Technology University library and met with University of Denver colleagues, Shimelis Assefa who was on sabbatical. She met with Aurora Sister City Executive Director and visited three different public libraries and their staffs. She also travelled to Axum and visited the Aksum University Library as well as the Axumite Heritage Foundation Library and Cultural Center, with which she has an ongoing project.
- Depending on the date of the grand opening, ILCE-IG may venture to Leon, France (a Denver Sister City) to attend the celebration.