

Libraries and Access to Information

The Information Access Working Group applauded the considerable progress in the seven items identified at CULCON XVIII and reported that the level of cooperation has dramatically increased among the libraries that convey, collect and disseminate electronic information in Japan and the United States. The concrete details of working group will be available on the CULCON homepage. The group had special praise for the cooperation among the National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources (NCC), National Center for Science Information Systems (NACSIS), the National Diet Library (NDL), the Association of National University Libraries (ANUL) in Japan, and others. The working group reported on a roundtable meeting held recently among these groups, with support from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, to discuss document delivery services. A pilot project will begin in July, 1999 to deliver documents electronically between Japan and the United States.

Both panels enthusiastically noted the progress on both sides with the above issues among professionals in the field.

The CULCON panelists resolved to continue to encourage and support work on information access on both sides. The CULCON panelists emphasized cooperation and concrete results among the library communities, in particular among the NCC, NACSIS and others. The CULCON panelists requested that the NCC and its Japanese counterparts report on further progress at CULCON XX.

Both panels agreed that the work of the CULCON Information Access Working Group is concluded. They disbanded the working group.