



IFLA DIVISION III LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

MINUTES of the meeting of the co-ordinating board held in The Hague, Netherlands, 10-11 March 2003

Present: John Day, Maryjke van Bodengraven, Jane Dreisig, Kirsten Leth Nielsen, Borge Sondergard, Joyce Jelks, Eduard Duyker, Mogens braband Jensen, Vibeke Lehmann, Tove Pemmer Saetre, Glenys Willars, Elisabeth Lundgren, Ivanka Stritevic

Apologies Rosemary Kavanagh, Helen Brazier, Barbara Clubb, S.K. Ng'ang'a,

1. Greetings

John welcomed everyone to The Hague and to the meeting. All of the Board were introduced.

The agenda was amended and then approved.

2. The minutes of the meeting held in Glasgow, Scotland 16 & 23 August

2002 were approved as being a correct record.

It was noted that members who had attended the regional section meetings of Division VIII found them extremely valuable. Any Section which had not made this liaison were urged to do so.

Minutes of the Co-ordinating Board must be distributed no later than one month after the meeting.

3. Chair's report including reports of the Professional Committee and Governing Board meetings held in December 2002

3.1 Financial reports

John thanked everyone for their financial reports, which he had transferred

to an Excel spreadsheet which converted all figures to euros. The exchange rate which is given by IFLA HQ is the one that should be used in conversions. This will help to alleviate confusion.

3.2 Open Forum, Berlin

CB members input to the planning of the Open Forum was appreciated, especially that of Borge, who contributed ideas and enthusiasm. John will talk about the work of the sections and everyone is asked to provide John with details of the work that has been done to support human culture and values. This was discussed later in the meeting, and recorded under Conference planning.

3.3 Evaluation of Sections

The professional Committee will begin the process of evaluating all Sections in December 2007. Ross Shimmon will write to all Sections to explain this decision. The evaluation will be formal, within the new structure of IFLA. The detail of the process has not been worked out yet.

3.4 Astrid Lindgren Award

PC had accepted to proposal that the Libraries for Children and Young Adults be one of the nominating organisations for this award.

3.5 Newsletters

PC discussed the format of newsletters and decided that Sections can send newsletters electronically; 8 paper copies must be sent to IFLA HQ for archive purposes; Sections should send paper copies to all members who request it. Sections can still distribute printed version, should they so decide, but should also put the newsletter on Iplanet.

3.6 Powerpoint presentations

It is preferable that the full paper is presented, however Powerpoint presentations are acceptable, but must be accompanied by a substantial abstract and references.

3.7 Duration and number of Standing Committee meetings

PC had decided that SCs need 2 meetings, and that the second meeting needs 2 hours.

PC agreed that, starting in 2004, Sections could only have 1 session per conference, and Division sessions could still be held. There will be no distinction between open sessions and workshops. There will be 2 and 4 hour sessions. It was noted that having no programme will not have any consequences for a section. Winston Tabb and Josche Neven are producing a document which will clarify the details. This will be distributed at the Officers' training session at the conference.

CB had a full discussion on this matter. It was agreed that 2004 is too soon to make this change as planning is well underway for 2004. Joint workshops should be encouraged. Concern was expressed that the professional work of the Sections is not diminished, but it was acknowledged that quality of such work is important. It was suggested that

sections bid for session time within the conference, sessions will be approved based on the quality of the programme. Criteria would be clear. The long term implications of all decisions relating to the conference should be thought through. It would be unfortunate if increasingly Sections organise their programmes outside the conference remit. However, CB agrees that the current conference duration is too long, but the professional work should not suffer by the time being cut. Delegates attend to take part in professional discussion and this should be maintained.

The time for the Divisions' open forums should be cut and the time given to the sections.

3.8 Speaker's Fund

CB were reminded that this fund is available for one speaker for each Division and could be used by another Division if not required.

3.9 Officers' Handbook

A new edition is being developed in Spring 2003.

3.10 Approved projects

JD distributed the up-to-date list of approved projects.

3.11 Governing Board

JD reported on Conference planning and it was noted that he will be chairing the conference planning committee.

Concerns about the commercial nature of having conference organisers external to IFLA were expressed.

BS noted that Governing Board minutes are not on IFLANET. JD confirmed that these are not distributed beyond the Governing Board. CB queried the openness of this for IFLA.

4. Financial report

The Treasurer thanked everyone for their clear reports this year.

He explained the background to the transfer of accounts from one bank to another, which was because of charges.

JD distributed the Financial report for Division III.

It was recommended that a list-serve be set up for the Officers of Division III.

Moderated by IFLA. John Day will be asked to investigate the possibility. It would be useful to notify colleagues when newsletters are posted on the web for instance. This matter was discussed later in the meeting. For decision see item 6.8.

5. Strategic and action plans

CB members had received the plan of the Libraries for the Blind section.

It was suggested that all action plans be on IFLANET, with an indication when targets were achieved.

6. Section reports

6.1 School Libraries and Resource Centres Section

TPS reported on the planning for two regional workshops on the school Library Manifesto and the Guidelines for school libraries, sponsored by IFLA and UNESCO. They will take place in Trinidad in May with GW participating and in Thailand in September with TPS. GW and TPS are planning key note presentations and one half day workshop. The project on the role of principals and school librarians in an information literate school community has been completed and the report is now published.

The importance of early and good communication with new standing committee members was stressed.

6.2 Library services to Multicultural populations Section

J.Dreisig reported that Guidelines in Dutch will be available in Berlin. The website has been updated and all satellite meeting papers are available there. A checklist for planning pre-conference meetings will be available in Berlin; it will be useful to all CB members.

6.3 Children and Youth Libraries Section

EL said that guidelines for children's libraries will be ready in Berlin. The guidelines for library services for young adults is now available in several languages. EL asked that people tell her if they come across translations of which she is not aware.

6.4 Table of Mobile Libraries Section.

JJ reported that the former round table has been busy organising itself into a section, and she updated CB on the general work of the section.

6.5 Libraries for the Disadvantaged Section.

JD reported on the mid-winter meeting held in The Hague

6.5 Libraries for the Blind Section.

MvB reported on the mid-winter meeting of the section which took place in Croatia. She had shared the views of the section relating the Division's open forum later in the meeting.

6.6 ROTNAC

MBJ informed CB that by the conference in August the Round Table will have become the Association of National Library Centres. Draft statutes have been prepared which confirm the formal connection with IFLA, along with an action plan. ANLC will still be a member of Division III. JD, as Chair, said how pleased he was with this outcome.

6.7 Public Libraries Section

BS highlighted the main issues of the Section.

6.8 List-serv

The meeting discussed the creation of a list-serv. Some members felt this would be useful, but the consensus was that the current situation will be retained, using the email list. GW will check all the addresses in her list.

7. Future Conferences

7.1 Berlin Conference. The Division's Open Forum was discussed.

John Day will present on behalf of all sections. Each section was asked to provide him with a concise summary with interest and impact.

Claudia Lux of Berlin Public Libraries will be asked to speak first, followed by Jens Thorhauge of the Danish National Library Authority and Grace Kempster of the British Council.

A full discussion took place on this programme and the views of the Libraries for the Blind section were fully aired and discussed. CB listened carefully and after due consideration decided to retain the existing programme. It was suggested that all speakers are reminded of the broad nature of the library users this CB represents and consider them all in their presentations.

Sections should identify, for JD, what they have done to support human culture and values by 15 April. JD will share his draft paper with CB members so that they can comment and suggest amendments where necessary.

JD asked for help in getting papers translated. J. Dreisig offered to investigate the possibility for Spanish and EL for Russian and French. They will confirm with JD by 1st April.

7.2 Satellite meetings

JD confirmed that 100 euros has to be paid to IFLA HQ.

Each section reported on their conference programmes, including the joint session of Libraries for the Blind and Public Libraries on Lifelong Learning, and a session on buildings run by Library Buildings and Equipment Section and Public Libraries Section in the Champagne region of France.

The meeting closed for the day and members undertook an interesting tour led by Eduard Dujker, of his organisation including the bindery. Eduard hosted a dinner in the evening, which was enjoyed immensely by everyone.

The meeting of 11 March 2003 continued at IFLA HQ.

JD opened the meeting by thanking Eduard for his generous hospitality, the excellent food and warmth of atmosphere. Everyone thanked him; it had been

an extremely successful evening.

8. Future Conferences

8.1 JD reminded that Board of the suggestion that Open Forums, for any Division, should be discontinued and the time allotted be given to the sections.

8.2 Conference planning for Argentine in 2004 is well underway for most Division III sections, who are planning open sessions and workshops, and so cannot afford to lose any time allocation. 2004 is too early to make any changes to the conference format.

E.g. Multicultural - full day workshop on the role of the library in preserving the cultural identity of indigenous people;

Blind – joint workshop, whole day with disadvantaged and publishers plus a workshop on digitisation, future content and distribution;

Children's on children's rights, a workshop with FAIFE, multicultural and schools

Public – an open session on advocacy e.g. with politicians and a full day workshop on meeting users' needs and a joint workshop with the statistics section on measuring public library issues.

The CB discussion continued on the professional content of conferences and the importance for sections to have time for professional discussion. The difficulties of combining a focused conference and the professional aspects of standing committee work are appreciated, within the present conference structure.

JD clarified the position of the Professional Committee and said that further discussions will be taking place, and he will be able to give more information when the PC and GB have met.

CB spent time identifying issues to help JD take the views of CB to PC. CB agreed that 2004 could be the last conference under the present structure, with 2005 seeing substantial change.

9. Creating a green light for IFLA

It was noted that the paper raises many different issues, and that IFLA should focus on the cause of libraries all over the world. IFLA needs to work with the National Associations which are its members.

It was felt that the paper considers many interesting questions and issues which will lead to more discussion, and it is too soon to come to conclusions. CB wishes to see the process taken further. CB discussed the increased role of IFLA in the political world scene, and different views were expressed, and no conclusions reached.

10. Guust van Wesemael Literacy prize.

Glenys Willars was nominated by CB to represent the Board on the Committee.

11. Dates of future meetings.

The next meeting will take place at the IFLA Conference in Berlin, August 2003. It would be helpful if the Mid-winter meeting dates could be confirmed in Berlin, however these will be dependent on the Governing Board schedule. JD will inform CB s soon as possible.

The meeting closed, and everyone thanked John for chairing the meeting and he thanked everyone for their keen participation.

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