![International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](logo)

University Libraries & Other General Research Libraries Section

Newsletter   **No. 35, July 2005**

Mission

To promote the development and good management of academic and research libraries in all countries, and to strengthen the integration of the library in the core institutional functions of learning, teaching, research and services.

Introducing the Members of the Standing Committee 2005 - 2007

Welcome to a very multi-cultural Standing Committee for the period 2005 – 2007.

Melita Ambrozic (Slovenia) ^
Miguel D. Barrionuevo (Spain) ~*
Klaus Ceynowa (Germany) ~*
Zhan Changzhi (China) ~*
Els S. van Eijck van Heslinga (Netherlands) ^
Babakisi T. Fidzani (Botswana) ^
Barbara J. Ford (USA) ^
Kari Garnes (Norway) ~*
Marie-Dominique Heusse (France) ~*
Mare-Nelli Ilus (Estonia) ~*
Timothy Mark (Canada) ~*

Stephen Marvin (USA) ~*
Gillian McCombs (USA) ~*
Andrew McDonald (U. Kingdom) ~*
Sue McKnight (United Kingdom) ~
Rossana Morriello (Italy) ~*
James G. Neal (USA) ^
Jarmo Saarti (Finland) ~*
Kathleen Salomon (USA) ~*
Arnold Verhagen (Netherlands) ~*
J.K Vijayakumar (India) ~*

~Elected to 2009
^Elected to 2007
*New members to Standing Committee

There are some long standing Section Committee members leaving as they have completed their terms of office (8 years maximum). Thank you for all your efforts in supporting the Section over the years.

We say a special farewell to Cristobal Pasadas Ureña, our outgoing Chair, and Frances Groen, the outgoing Secretary. Thank you very much for everything that you have done for the Section over the years. We will miss your wisdom and friendship.

Congratulations to Section Members

Two of our members were elected to IFLA's Governing Board in the most recent elections. Congratulations to Barbara Ford (current Section Committee member) and previous Committee Member Gunar Sahlin.

!!! IMPORTANT !!!
Review of our Section … Your chance to provide input

There has been a very disappointing response to the questionnaire reviewing our section. Less than 10 members completed the survey! It is attached to this newsletter (for those without Internet access) and is available on the IFLA website at: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s2/pub/s2-membership-survey05.pdf

I urge you to complete the survey and return it to the Editor, Sue McKnight, IFLA University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Section, c/- The Boots Library, Nottingham Trent University, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham, NG1 5LS, United Kingdom, or email: sue.mcknight@ntu.ac.uk by 3 August 2005.

It will take about 15 minutes to complete, as it covers a wide range of issues. However, it is your chance to influence the direction of the Section. Your comments will be considerd by the Section's Standing Committee at its meetings in Oslo, when a new Strategic Plan will be drafted, based on YOUR feedback.

Oslo - IFLA 71st World Library & Information Congress Program

See you in Oslo? We hope so. Here is a list of events that should be of interest to members. Of course, there are many, many other presentations that will be professionally rewarding. The full program of events is on the IFLA web site at: http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm

SATURDAY 13 AUGUST 2005

11.30-14.20
29 SC I University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Standing Committee Meeting

SUNDAY 14 AUGUST 2005

08.30-10.00
70 Council I
10.45-12.45
71 Opening Session
12.45-13.45
72 *SI* - Plenary Session I
13.45-15.45
75 Reference and Information Services
16.00-18.00
78 Opening of the Exhibition, Including the Opening Party in the evening

MONDAY 15 AUGUST 2005

08.30-10.30
81 *SI -* Knowledge Management
10.45-12.45
89 Division of Education and Research
12.45-13.45
93 *SI -* Plenary Session II
95 *SI -* Statistics and Evaluation with University Libraries - "Quality in the Institutional Environment"
(part I - 13.45-18.00) – *note joint Section event*

TUESDAY 16 AUGUST 2005

10.00-12.00
**109 Information Technology with University Libraries and other General Resources –
Course Management Systems and Library Information Systems: Issues of
Interoperability** - *note joint Section event*
Auditorium 1, Helga Engs hus, University of Oslo, Blindern
12.00-14.00
115 Poster Sessions
12.45-13.45
116 *SI -* Plenary Session III

WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 2005

10.45-12.45
136a Quality Issues in Libraries DG – Web Site Quality
12.00-14.00
115 Poster Sessions
12.45-13.45
138 *SI -* Plenary Session IV
140 *SI -* Management and Marketing with Information Literacy
(part I - 13.45-18.00)

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST 2005

10.45-12.45
**157 Statistics and Evaluation with Information Technology and with
University and Research Libraries – Measures and Standards in the
Electronic Age** – *note joint Section event*
12.45-13.45
159 *SI -* - Plenary Session V
14.00-15.50
160 Closing Session
16.00-18.00
161 Council II

FRIDAY 19 AUGUST 2005

11.00-13.50
**178 SC II University Libraries and other General Research Libraries
Standing Committee Meeting**

Promoting the Global Information Commons

A statement by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions to WSIS
Tunis PrepCom2

Mme La Presidente, Delegates, I thank you for the opportunity to be heard on behalf of global
civil society on the subject of financing. I speak on behalf of the International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and its member associations and libraries
throughout the world and also the Scientific Information Working Group and the Education
Working Group.

We speak not just for libraries and information services but for the two and a half billion
people who use them, the people of civil society. For their sake, we ask governments and the
global community to find ways of resourcing the program of action with a sense of urgency
and in partnership with all stakeholders. The people of the world need vigorous action now,
not in a decade, because a child entering school today will likely have finished in a decade.
In a world suffering from HIV/AIDS, conflict, natural calamities, gender discrimination and

other causes of marginalisation, we need urgent and concerted action if we are to promote a truly inclusive and mutually beneficial global information society.

Libraries, archives and information services provide access points to the Internet for members of communities and also the support and skills development which are essential to effective use. They not only maintain our cultural heritage but also the records which are essential to effective government and to continuing economic development. Through such means they build capacity in communities and nations and help to redress disadvantage.

IFLA advocates a global information commons through which all people will be enabled to seek and impart information. Its realisation requires, at a minimum, ubiquitous access to sufficient affordable bandwidth, up to date and affordable ICTs, unrestricted multilingual access to information and skills development programs to enable all to both access information and disseminate their own while respecting the fundamental right of human beings to both access and express information without restriction.

This requires investment by governments, international agencies and business entities through the harnessing of all available infrastructure and resources in partnership with civil society. A modest investment in the worldwide network of libraries and information services would build on the existing foundation to:

* provide an extensive web of internet access points, each supported with advice and training
* offer relevant information in appropriate formats, languages and
* develop literacies and capacity
* support health and education
* advance the position of women
* provide opportunity and choice for children and the benefits of lifelong learning
* promote innovation and economic development
* ensure the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage and diversity
* foster respect and understanding between peoples.

We have three proposals for new wording. First, we propose a new paragraph on financing to appear after paragraph 24 of the operational part of the final document:

"Investment should be applied in partnership with all stakeholders including grassroots communities and civil society and should build on existing infrastructure to create sustainable mechanisms to enable major progress against the goals as quickly as possible."

Second, in the section 'Improvements and Innovations of Existing Financing Mechanisms', the following paragraph should be added:
"We recognise that innovative financial mechanisms that should contribute to bridging the digital divide may rely on lowering the costs of access to information and software resources and on making those resources freely available to all.

Such innovative efforts should include:

a) supporting the implementation of open access initiatives to scientific, technological, cultural and educational information; and

b) raising awareness about the existence and use of free software, open source software and low-cost proprietary software."

We also have a specific recommendation for an additional clause in paragraph 6 on the achievement of targets and objectives. We suggest the addition of:
"enhancing capacity and sustainable access to content by improving connectivity and otherwise investing in existing infrastructure including the global network of libraries, archives and information services".

Finally, we invite you to our pre-Summit conference in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt, on 10 and 11 November 2005 at which we will show how libraries and information services around the world are realising the global information society for all.

IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, thanks you Mme La Presidente and Delegates for the opportunity to be heard and reminds Delegates of the urgency of applying the financial and human resources of the world to achieving a truly inclusive global information society.

Alex Byrne
President-elect, IFLA

Some Thoughts on IFLA and the Section on University and Other Research Libraries from Your Outgoing Secretary

Section Information Coordinator, Sue McKnight has invited me to contribute to this issue. As most of the members of the Section probably know, I am finishing my second term of two years as Secretary of the Section, and this is a welcome opportunity to share some final thoughts with the membership. I am sure that most of you will agree with me that it is the individuals with whom we share the experience of IFLA each year who are the primary motivation for participation. The relationships that we build upon over the years have made each meting increasingly fruitful as those relationships have deepened. I am particularly grateful for having had the opportunity to work with Cristobal Pasadas and Sue McKnight who have done so much to continue the work of the Section. The extent of Cristobal's contribution included both the Coordinating Board and the Governing Board as well as that of the Section, and his work has been both diligent and dedicated. Sue deserves our gratitude for her work as Communications Officer in providing the communication that knits together the hundreds of Section members during the year through the Newsletter. It has been a great pleasure for me to work with all the members of the Standing Committee who carry out the work of the Section on behalf of the entire membership.

Some of my IFLA colleagues will also know that I am currently on sabbatical leave from McGill University where I have stepped down as Trenholme Director of Libraries at McGill University in Canada, having completed my second term in that capacity. During the past year I have had a wonderful opportunity to travel and to learn as part of my research project. A contract with a publisher for a book entitled Medical Libraries and the Public Good. Working on the manuscript has been a rewarding experience as it has allowed me to reflect on the two aspects of my professional career: medical library management and university library administration. My career pattern has been reflected in the opportunities that IFLA has provided me, first as Chair of the Section on Biological and Medical Libraries and second as Secretary to the Section on University and General Research Libraries.

My work, both in IFLA and in preparing my book has reinforced my understanding and my conviction that librarians in all kinds of libraries...medical, hospital, public, university, to name just a few of our specialties... and working in every country represented in the IFLA membership hold many of the same values and concerns. We work from a common knowledge base provided by formal education for the profession and by experience. Some of us are aggregators seeing convergence and linkages between the various professional specialties and some of us are disaggregators, emphasizing the special nature of the practice of a particular specialty within the profession, such as cataloguing of medical librarianship. Both aggregators and disaggregators are essential to advancing librarianship worldwide, but I have become convinced that our similarities are far more important than differences. We are more alike than we are different. Some of us are symbolic analysts, looking to improve understanding of trends and changes in our work and in the larger environment in which we practice our profession; others are symbolic manipulators, in the best sense of the term, scanning the signs and symbols in our work to plan the future development of our profession in a time of enormous change. Here again, we need to be both analyst and manipulator if we are to position IFLA and our profession for success in the uncertain future that lies ahead.

IFLA's structure allows us to play all of these roles - aggregator and disaggregator, analyst and manipulator. Its structure is, therefore, complex and for this reason at times, frustrating. IFLA has made important changes in recent years to strengthen our similarities through encouraging shared programming between the Sections. The Section on University Libraries has taken this opportunity to develop a number of shared program events at the annual meeting, especially with the Information technology Section, and the Statistics and Evaluation Section. Of course, for each librarian fortunate to attend the annual conference there is the added issue of national identity, allowing us an opportunity to put forward a national agenda within IFLA. Our IFLA Presidents, Kaye Raseroka and Alex Byrne are working to engage the entire membership in programs such as FAIFE and in planning the future of IFLA. Increasingly program time is available at the annual meeting for issues of convergence.

One of the most important examples of convergence for me personally was my experience as an IFLA member in attending a pre-conference workshop to bring together IFLA members regarding the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) that was organized by the Swiss librarians in November 2003 just prior to the WSIS meeting in Geneva. As a result of the initiative of the Swiss librarians and the hard work of the President and the President-Elect of IFLA, the role of librarians in the Information Society became more evident at the World Summit on the Information Society in December, 2003. The second part of this dialogue will take place later this year in Tunis. Barbara Ford is the member of the Standing Committee of the Section who is monitoring progress at WSIS on behalf of the section. I know that she will be working to inform and engage and inform all of the Section members. I have developed a great respect for Barbara's leadership and communication ability, and I look forward to her update at our forthcoming meeting.

The work of your Standing Committee is based on four major goals. These goals and the actions to be taken on them are printed in the Strategic Plan of the Section, 2004-2005. Briefly, the four goals relate to (1) the role of the librarian in promoting information literacy and knowledge management, (2) the identification of best practices and quality assurance in institutions, (3) the changing nature of scholarly communication and digital preservation and (4) scanning the horizon in higher education for opportunity for IFLA and the library profession. This last goal is particularly relevant to the advancement of resource sharing between the poorer and the richer countries. In all of these areas, the Section has tried to reflect the concerns and priorities of individual members. In reading these goals, it is strikingly clear that they converge with the interests of many if not all other organizational units. The Section under the dedicated leadership of the Chair has made progress on all these fronts. But it will always be true that much remains to be done, and there are challenges involved in maintaining momentum between annual meetings.

I was particularly pleased when IFLA provided a statement on Open Access, although somewhat disappointed that it chose not to endorse the Budapest Open Access Initiative. The issue of Open Access is one that continues to gain momentum and has particular significance in relation to the needs of the developing world. At the IFLA meeting in Glasgow the Section sponsored a pre-conference workshop on Open Access. This year the Section on Medical and Biological Sciences Libraries is sponsoring a workshop on this topic, further indication, if any is needed, of the convergences of interests amongst IFLA members. I plan to attend this Workshop on Saturday August 13, leaving it at lunch time for my last opportunity to record the deliberations of the University and General Research Libraries Section. Going to an IFLA meeting is all about making choices and trying to be in two places at once. I hope that the luxury of a sabbatical leave has not dimmed my ability for self-cloning.

Finally, and most importantly for the future of the Section is that this year is an election year and there will be changes in the officers and members of the Standing Committee. This means that at the first meeting of the Standing Committee in Oslo, prior to the conference, an election will be designate new officers of the committee. A new Chairman will be elected and a new Secretary as well. New members of the Standing committee who have been selected will serve from 2005-2007. The committee with these new members and the continuing members (but not those whose membership ends in 2005) serves as an electorate for the new officers. Candidates eligible to stand as officers must be members of the Standing Committee, that is, fully elected committee members for either the period 2003-2007 or 2005-2009. We shall be electing both a Chair and a Secretary. For members of the Standing

Committee, I urge you to consider candidates for these two offices. We would hope to circulate nominations in advance of the August meeting. This will allow members to consider the candidates. It will also allow time for the candidates to assure that they will have the necessary support to allow them to attend future meetings. This is particularly important given that the next two years will take IFLA to Korea and to South Africa which will involve a considerable commitment on the part of the employer. I am asking all Standing Committee members to give their input on nominations prior to July 20, 2005.

In conclusion, I want to wish the Standing Committee and the over 500 members of the Section great success in all their future endeavours. I look forward to seeing you in Oslo.

Frances Groen

Have you visited IFLANET lately?

This newsletter is not intended to be a substitute to the IFLANET website, which contains loads of information about IFLA, this Section, and all other sections/activities of IFLA. Please visit the site and bookmark it for future reference. Then visit it at least once a month to keep up with what is happening with your Association. Go to: http://www.ifla.org/ You will find all the minutes of the Section's meetings, conference papers, brochures abut the Section and more.

Future Conferences

World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2006

World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council
Durban, South Africa, 2007

World Library and Information Congress: 74rd IFLA General Conference and Council
Québec, Canada, 2008

Editorial Note:

This newsletter is produced by the University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Section of IFLA. The Section intends to publish two newsletters per year, one before the annual IFLA conference in that year, and one after the IFLA conference, serving as a summary of conference highlights. This way, we hope to encourage members to attend, by highlighting what was, and what is planned to be, showcased at these great conferences.

To keep costs as low as possible, the newsletter will be emailed to members who have nominated an email address, with a paper version to those who have no email address. In addition, the newsletter will be published on IFLANET.

Contributions to the Newsletter are invited from members. Forward these to:
Sue McKnight
Information Officer
IFLA University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Section
c/- The Boots Library, Nottingham Trent University
Goldsmith Street, Nottingham, NG1 5LS
United Kingdom

email: sue.mcknight@ntu.ac.uk

IFLA
UNIVERSITY AND OTHER GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES SECTION
MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 2005

The University and Other General Research Libraries Section of IFLA, Division I, is reviewing its existing activities as part of the general survey of IFLA programs to be completed by 2007.

As part of this review, we are conducting a survey of our membership that should only take about 15 minutes to complete. We would therefore be grateful if you would complete and **submit this questionnaire by 3 August 2005**. Your responses will remain anonymous and the results of the survey will be published on the Section's Newsletter later in 2005.

Complete and return the survey to:

Sue McKnight
Information Officer
IFLA University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Section
c/- The Boots Library
Nottingham Trent University
Goldsmith Street
Nottingham, NG1 5LS
United Kingdom

email: sue.mcknight@ntu.ac.uk

Fax: +61 (0)115 848 2286

Throughout the questionnaire, where there is a box, please tick as appropriate.

SECTION 1: TELL US ABOUT YOUR INSTITUTION

1. What type of institution do you work in?
- □ Academic library service
- □ Academic library branch
- □ Library association
- □ National library
- □ Research library
- □ Library school
- □ other (please, specify)

2. Where is your institution based?
- □ Sub-Saharan Africa
- □ Latin America or the Caribbean
- □ United States or Canada
- □ Western or Central Europe
- □ Australasia and Pacific
- □ Eastern Europe
- □ North Africa or Middle East   □ Asia

3. What other professional associations is your institution a member of?
(please list the main benefit to your institution after each).

_____
_____
_____

SECTION 2: TELL US ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP OF IFLA

4. How long have you been a member of IFLA?
  □ 5 years or less □ 6–9 years □ more than 10 years

5. How long have you been a member of the University and Other General Research Libraries Section?
  □ 5 years or less □ 6–9 years □ more than 10 years

6. Why did you or your institution join IFLA?
(Select more than one if you wish, ordering them by importance, i.e. 1 most important reason, then 2, then 3 etc.)
  □ advocacy for the profession □ networking with colleagues
  □ professional development □ website
  □ access to IFLA publications □ annual conference
  □ to address international professional concerns
  □ declarations and position papers issued
  □ other (please specify) □ don't know

7. Why did you or your institution join the University and Other General Research Libraries Section?
(Select more than one if you wish, ordering them by importance, i.e. 1 most important reason, then 2, then 3 etc.)
  □ advocacy for the profession □ networking with colleagues
  □ professional development □ website
  □ access to IFLA publications □ annual conference
  □ declarations and position papers issued
  □ academic focus
  □ to address international professional concerns
  □ don't know
  □ other (please specify)

8. What others IFLA divisions or sections do you belong to?
_____
_____
_____

9. Have you or any of your staff ever been a member of a Standing Committee, Governing Board or other official position?
□ Yes (please specify) □ No
_____
_____
_____
_____

10. How many annual IFLA conferences have you or one of your staff attended?
_____
_____
_____

11. Does your institution pay the membership of IFLA?
  □ Yes □ No

12. Does your institution allow for attendance at IFLA conferences as part of your working day?

        □ Yes   □ No

13. Which of these factors are most important for your decision to attend annual IFLA conferences? Please rank from 1 to 6.

□ cost   □ timing   □ program   □ Standing Committee commitment
□ location   □ topic   □ other (please specify)

14. How do you rate your level of knowledge and familiarity with the following features from 1 'very good' to 5 'very poor'

	1	2	3	4	5
IFLA strategic priorities					
IFLA statutes and rules of procedure					
Social Responsibilities Discussion Group recommendations					
Presidential theme 2003–2005					
IFLA role in the World Summit for the Information Society					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section strategic plans					
Other (please specify)					

SECTION 3: TELL US YOUR OPINIONS

15. Does the NAME - University and Other General Research Libraries Section - actually reflect your interests and priorities?

        □ Yes   □ No

Why? _____
_____

Any suggestions for a new name?
_____

16. What do you believe should be the role of the University and Other General Research Libraries Section within IFLA?

_____
_____
_____
_____

17. What marketing strategies could IFLA/University and Other General Research Libraries Section use to improve direct communication with your authorities to help you sell our professional image?

IFLA?_____
_____
University and Other General Research Libraries Section?

_____
_____

18. How useful are IFLA conferences to you?
□ not at all useful   □ somewhat useful   □ useful
□ very useful   □ don't know

19. What are two things your institution most needs now from IFLA?
IFLA?_____

_____

From University and Other General Research Libraries Section?

_____

_____

20. What would you lose if IFLA did not exist?

_____

_____

_____

21. Rank the following IFLA products from 1 'excellent' to 5 'not at all good'

	1	2	3	4	5
Annual conference					
IFLA Journal					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section's Newsletters					
IFLANET					
IFLA Publications					
Other (specify)					

22. Rank your overall level of satisfaction from 1 'very satisfied' to 5 'not satisfied at all'

	1	2	3	4	5
IFLA					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section					
IFLANET					
IFLA Publications Program					
IFLA Headquarters					
other (please specify)					

23. Rank the importance of IFLA functions and roles from 1 'most important' to 5 'least important'

	1	2	3	4	5
Networking and meeting with colleagues					
Leadership in IFLA SC, boards, etc.					
Continuing education and professional development					
Costs are reasonable and provide value for money					
Website and IFLANET					
Other (please specify)					

24. Rank the following statements from 1 'strongly agree' to 5 'strongly disagree'

	1	2	3	4	5
My voice is easily heard in IFLA					
I feel familiar with IFLA					
Membership and participation in IFLA helps me to perform better					
Documents of IFLA are important for my profession					
IFLA deals with issues important for my library					
IFLA helps develop professional contacts					
IFLA website is very useful					

25. Rank the following statements from 1 'strongly agree' to 5 'strongly disagree'

	1	2	3	4	5
My voice is easily heard in University and Other General Research Libraries Section					
I feel familiar with University and Other General Research Libraries Section					
Membership and participation in University and Other General Research Libraries Section helps me to perform better					
Documents of University and Other General Research Libraries Section are important for my work and professional activity					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section deals with issues important for my library					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section helps develop professional contacts					
University and Other General Research Libraries Section page in IFLANET is very useful					

26. How well does University and Other General Research Libraries Section communicate with membership?

□ very effectively □ quite effectively □ effectively
□ not very effectively □ not at all effectively

27. How well does IFLA represent membership interests to key stakeholders? Rank the following from 1 'very well' to 5 ' very badly'

	1	2	3	4	5
Governments					
International organisations					
Publishers/vendors					
Other associations					
Public					
Overall					
Other (please specify)					

SECTION 4: TELL US YOUR IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE

28. What role as an international organisation do you believe IFLA should play?
□ continuing education and professional development □ leadership
□ public relations and advocacy □ government relations
□ relations with non-government organisations and international organisations

29. What IFLA features, programs, activities are not as useful to you or your institution as they ought to be?
IFLA_____
_____
_____
University and Other General Research Libraries Section _____
_____
_____
_____

30. Do you have any suggestions about services not currently provided that ought to be included in programs and services?
IFLA?_____
_____
_____
University and Other General Research Libraries Section?_____
_____
_____
_____

31. What one thing would you change if given the chance?
for IFLA?_____
_____
_____
for University and Other General Research Libraries Section?_____
_____
_____
_____

That is all. Thank you for your interest and feedback. If you have any further queries, please contact Sue McKnight.