



IFLA Geography and Map Libraries Section Newsletter

March 2008

FROM THE CHAIR

South Africa – a land of contrasts. For many of us it was a long trip but well worthwhile. In addition to having an opportunity to visit a country “down under” and located on a fascinating continent, our Section presented a very interesting program. All of the presentations of the Open Session focused on some aspect of African geography but were presented by speakers who hailed from Africa, Russia, and the United Kingdom. In addition to our official program, members of the Section had the opportunity to visit the Geography Department at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and also the Oceanographic Research Institute.

Now it is time to look ahead to this year’s conference in Quebec City, Canada. The theme for our Open Session will be “The Mapping of North America: A Graphic Journey through History.” The emphasis of the program will be on how these maps reflect the cultural and social conditions of the times. We will also be cosponsoring with the Social Science Section a session on Digital Libraries. And finally we are cosponsors of a satellite meeting in Washington, DC that is being organized by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section. The meeting will address the map as a page or the map as print –looking at antiquarian maps – and the places where books and maps intersect.

IFLA is still pursuing its efforts to streamline the organization. The idea of eliminating the smaller sections has not disappeared but the membership was able to persuade the IFLA leadership to reduce the minimum number of members from 50 to 40. With our 45 members that puts us on the plus side but barely. It behooves us to increase our membership not only to satisfy IFLA but to make our section more viable.

There were some other issues addressed in our two Standing Committee meetings that will appear as separate items in this newsletter rather than have them buried in these remarks. Hopefully this will attract the attention of the section membership.

Attendance in Durban was larger than in Seoul but still not overwhelming. Since Quebec City is more centrally located, it is our hope that more of the Standing Committee members will find it possible to attend this year’s conference.

See you in Quebec City this summer. The dates are 10-14 August 2008 with the Standing Committee scheduled to meet on 9 August (Saturday) and 15 August (Friday).

Anita K. Oser, Chair
Geography and Map Libraries Section

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ELECTION RESULTS

This was an election year for IFLA. The Geography and Map Libraries Section elected the following officers:

Chair: Anita K. Oser (2nd term)
Secretary: Elizabeth Tilley
Treasurer: David McQuillan
Information Coordinator: Véronique Thomé
Newsletter Editor: Véronique Thomé

These are two-year terms, 2007-2009. Although 2009 is a long way off, it is never too early to start planning for the next election. It is very important that we have a full slate of candidates in 2009. If not, we may well be on the way to extinction – either to merge with another section or be disbanded. So please keep this in mind.

MEMBERSHIP

The size of our membership is still an issue. Even though IFLA agreed to lower the minimum number of members to 40, we are still dangerously close to the minimum with our 45 members. FOR THAT REASON I WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE EVERY MEMBER TO RECRUIT AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER. You have two options: to persuade an organization that is a member of IFLA but not a member of our Section to join or to recruit a personal member. For example, if an organization or institution already belongs to IFLA but is not a member of our Section, you could encourage them to join our Section. If the organization has not used all of its free section membership slots, there is no cost. If it has exceeded its free slots, the cost for adding an additional section is €50. For an individual to join IFLA and our Section the cost is €125. You can find additional information about IFLA membership at <http://www.ifla.org/III/members/index.htm>, a membership form for an additional section beyond the free allocations at <http://www.ifla.org/III/members/form2a.htm>, and a form for personal or student affiliate membership at <http://www.ifla.org/III/members/form3.htm>. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS. THE SURVIVAL OF THE SECTION DEPENDS ON HOW SUCCESSFUL WE ARE. Plus the more members we have the more viable we will be.

IFLA REORGANIZATION, ETC.

The IFLA leadership made several decisions in Durban that pertain to the restructuring of the organization. In the future the Professional Committee and Governing Board meetings will be open to all attendees. The only exception being when awards or sensitive matters are under discussion. Another change will be that the number of Divisions will be reduced from eight to five. We will be a part of the Library Services Division (that may not be the exact title).

The most important action taken by the IFLA leadership, at least for our Section, was the decision to reduce the number of required members from 50 to 40. This puts us on the “safe” side but only by a very small margin. It is very important that each and every one of us makes a serious effort to recruit new members.

Opening Session, ICC, Durban



GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING PAPER MAPS

The data that David McQuillan collected at the IFLA Workshop on Paper Maps held in Washington, DC in May 2005 is now being collated by Marcy Allen at Penn State University. Marcy hopes to incorporate the results in a paper she is working on. The project is being partially funded by IFLA.

REVISION OF THE WORLD DIRECTORY OF MAP COLLECTIONS

It has been almost eight years since the 4th edition of the directory appeared. There have been many changes since that time in the structure and operation of map libraries/collections. It would therefore seem appropriate to look at the last edition and determine how best to update the current information, include new information, and perhaps delete information that is no longer relevant. One suggestion was to create a virtual map room, not just a directory, with information from a world perspective for all aspects of map collections. Véronique Thomé, Marcy Allen, and Anita Oser have volunteered to be the coordinators of this project. Rather than make it a three-person operation we would like to have a number of people participate who would be responsible for only a segment of the whole. If you are interested in participating, please contact Véronique at veronique.thome@bnf.fr, Marcy at mma_17@psu.edu, or Anita at osanitak@yahoo.com.



Visit to the Geography Dept, Univ. of KwaZulu-Natal



Presentation by Rudy van der Elst, Director, Oceanographic Research Institute



At the uShaka Marine World in Durban



A visit to the Tala Game Reserve – David, Sook, Anita

IFLA CONFERENCE IN QUEBEC CITY 2008

Plans for the Open Session in Quebec City are now complete. The topic for the session will be "Mapping North America: A Graphic Journey through History." The focus will be on the historical information and cultural insights the maps reveal. The program for the Open Session and other planned activities are as follows:

OPEN SESSION

Mapping a Continent: Historical Atlas of North America, 1492-1814.

Jean-François Palomino, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Montreal

Mapping the International Boundary between British Canada and the United States: The Letters and Maps of David Thompson, 1817-1826.

Frances L. Pollitt, Maine Historical Society, Portland, Maine

From New Netherlands to New York: Exploring Unknown Shores, 1609-2009. (Celebrating the Quadricentennial of Henry Hudson's Exploration of the Waterways of New York)

Alice C. Hudson, New York Public Library, New York City

The Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec's Online Digital Map Collection.

Jean-François Palomino, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Montreal

JOINT OPEN SESSION WITH SOCIAL SCIENCE LIBRARIES SECTION

Borderless Collections in the Social Sciences: Platforms for Digital Access, Dissemination, and Preservation.

This will be a four-hour session with eight presentations two of which will deal with geography and/or maps

FIELD TRIP

Arrangements have been made to visit the map collections at the Centre d'archives de Québec (A branch of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec) and the Centre d'information géographique et statistique (Centre Géo/Stat) de la Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval. Both are located on the Université Laval campus. Time and date not yet determined.

SATELLITE MEETING

We are the cosponsor with the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of a satellite meeting called "Map as Page, Map as Print: How maps intersect with books and prints." It will be held in Washington, DC August 6-7. No further details are currently available.



Speakers at the Open Session: Joseph Njangiru, Anita Oser, Elizabeth Tilley, and Peter Ocholla

**DRAFT MINUTES
FIRST STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
SATURDAY, 18 AUGUST 2007
11:30-14:20
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM 11d
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA**

Attendees: Marcy Allen, Ruth Hedegaard, David C. McQuillan (Secretary/Treasurer), Anita K. Oser (Chair), Helge Salvesen, Mel Thatcher, Véronique Thomé,

The meeting opened at 11.30 in the ICC on Saturday, 18 August 2007, in Durban, South Africa. The Chair offered greetings and regrets from members who were not able to attend.

Members of the Genealogy and Local History Section joined us for a discussion of a possible merger, given the mandate for a fifty-member minimum set by the IFLA Governing Board. The Seoul meeting, 18-25 August 2006, was reviewed. A joint satellite meeting at the Library of Congress, prior to the 2008 Quebec City IFLA meeting, with the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, was discussed.

There was only one newsletter published by the G&M Section this past year. The goal is to have at least two published each year.

The Strategic Plan for the G&M Section was reviewed. The minutes of the G&M Standing Committees I & II from the 2006 Seoul conference were approved. The Treasurer's report was given. No project money was spent in the last fiscal year. A visit to the Geography Department, the University of KwaZulu-Natal on Wednesday, 22 August 2007, was discussed. The schedule for the conference in Durban was reviewed. A report from the Special Libraries Division Coordinating Board I, Friday, 17 August 2007 was presented.

Marcy Allen, Penn State University, agreed to take over the "IFLA Guidelines for Handling Paper Maps in Libraries" project. Continued project funding will be requested from the IFLA Governing Board.

Elections were held and Anita K. Oser was re-elected Chair, Elizabeth Tilley Secretary, David C. McQuillan Treasurer, and Véronique Thomé Information Coordinator.

Plans for the 2008 Quebec City IFLA conference were discussed.

The Open Paper Session for the current Durban conference, with regard to the presentation by East View Cartographic, was reviewed.

Finally, members were urged to talk to individuals and institutions about ideas for the IFLA Milan, Italy, conference in August 2009, during the current conference, and report back at the G&M Standing Committee II on Friday, 24 August, 2007.

The meeting adjourned ca. 14.20.

Respectfully submitted,
David McQuillan, Secretary

A South African Landscape



**DRAFT MINUTES
SECOND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
FRIDAY, 24 AUGUST 2007
8.30 – 10.50
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM 11d
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA**

Attendees: Marcy Allen, Julianne Beall, Marcel Gannemann, Russell Lynch, Dorothy McGarry, David McQuillan (Treasurer, Programme Organizer), Anita Oser (Chair), Mamadou Sene, Véronique Thomé (Information Officer), Elizabeth Tilley (Secretary), Bettina Wagner

Comments on IFLA conference:

- Express no. 7 – G&M session was mentioned – specifically the two African speakers
- Tuesday session went well despite late show by first speaker
- Restructuring committee – Chair Anita Oser contributed at the hearing and the minimum number of members for a Section has now been lowered to 40. G&M's position is approximately 42 so there is a need still to add more members
- Field trip to the University of KwaZulu-Natal Geography Dept with tour of map room and presentations by 4 students went well
- Visit to the Oceanographic Research Institute not attended by many but was very interesting

Pre-conference plans for 2008

Intention is that Rare Books and Manuscript Section work with G&M section. New chair of RBM proposed plans for the organization of this pre-conference

- Aim: The map as a page or the map as print – looking at antiquarian maps – and the places where books and maps intersect
- August 6&7 2008 with two mornings of papers and tours of e.g. Library of Congress in the afternoons with travel to IFLA in Quebec for 10th
- Reservation expressed by G&M Chair over the timing as their section officers need to get to Quebec for meetings on 8th August. More ideal to have the conference on 5th & 6th August 2007
- French National Library would be interested in getting involved in the pre-conference
- Mark Dimunation is head of Rare books at LC and is organizing the pre-conference.

Quebec conference plans

- Proposed to combine forces with Rare Books and Manuscript Section for full conference
- Title suggestion for the IFLA Quebec: "Expanding the borders of knowledge". Or: The Map as Page/ the Map as Print .The idea would be to look at exploration and travel in a joint session with 6-8 papers. Workshops could also be included in place of papers.
- Potential speakers/ ideas – Colleague from Syracuse (Delmas Foundation) on Arctic exploration. . Antiquarian bookseller – Helen Kahn; Ingrid Parent – Libraries and Archives Canada for a possible Francophone speaker; Henry Snyder, California – yet to suggest a speaker on Latin American material. Hudson Bay archives possible;
- The majority of the planning of the sessions would be by Rare Books
- The role of G&M would be either to help provide a joint session of papers or papers combined with a field trip. One suggestion for a trip was the Archives in Quebec City. Possibility of getting Newberry Library in Chicago involved- they are a focal point on use of native American maps.
- Some concern was expressed about whether G&M should do the pre-conference as well as the IFLA session.
- Chair, Anita Oser to be coordinator with Rare Books and Manuscript Section. Chairs of RBM (Bettina Wagner) and G&M (Anita Oser) should issue a joint call for papers for IFLA. Both sections to get involved in looking at the papers and making decisions about them. Submit request session as joint effort – should automatically get a double session but it was recommended that we see what kind of papers we get in. David will be the contact person for the G&M section.

Milan 2009

- Geographical Literacy is a possible idea to explore.

Strategic Plan for 2007-2008.

- Goal is to educate librarians generally. NO need for the ISBD in the strategic plan any more – just recommendations and suggestions.
- Membership drive should be incorporated into the strategic plan – David and Anita tried last year to target existing IFLA members. It was suggested that each person could try in their own country with a goal for two members from each country. There are 17 members of the standing committee so if this tactic is used then we should have enough future members.
- Updating the directory of map collections. It was suggested that we create a virtual map room with information from a world perspective for all aspects of map collections with a link on IFLANET. Virtual and paper are still recommended. Coordinators suggested – Veronique Thome, Marcy Allen and Anita Oser. Need to put proposal to IFLA first especially if financial support is required. The type of information aimed at collection would be website, name contact, type of collection, but not detailed information such as opening times.
- Discussion as to whether it is better to publish on CD or on paper. If available on CD interested people could request a paper copy if necessary. Doing it through paper via SAUR it automatically results in 750 paper copies and minimum of 1000 orders and the rest via print on demand/ or on CD.
- Each division submits 3 papers for possible inclusion in publication in IFLA journal. Each section submits one paper and the Division selects three from the sections for possible submission – only one from the Division will be taken. Libby Tilley's presentation to be put forward.
- Membership: It was suggested that we delay annual members until beginning of 2008 to get a whole year's membership benefits. Personal members pay approx 125 euros. Institution pays pro rata on size of institution and budget and possibly location. Associations are different from institutions.

AOB

- Guidelines for Handling Paper Maps is being done in conjunction with CUAC Survey that David put out. Marcy i/c related paper. Results are still being collated. Funds are still available from IFLA to put together the guide for handling paper maps. Need to put together a draft paper/guidelines first and submit for comments.
- Guidelines on cataloguing for French-speaking countries in Africa. Observer from Senegal attended meeting. He has problems in his Library needing specialist cataloguing training. Véronique Thomé agreed to arrange for library staff from Senegal to go to Paris for training. A related idea was to produce a paper in French for Quebec on this issue

Meeting closed at 10.15.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Tilley, Secretary



Attendees at the Second Standing Committee Meeting

**GEOGRAPHY AND MAP LIBRARIES SECTION
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
ANNUAL REPORT
2006-2007**

The Section's activities for the year culminated with a very successful Open Session "Mapping the African Continent" held at the World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council in Durban, South Africa. Speakers at the Open Session included two from Africa, one from the United Kingdom, and one from Russia. All of the presentations focused on various aspects of mapping the vast African continent. The Section also arranged two field trips during our stay in Durban. The first one took us to the Geography Department at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Our host was Dr. Diane Scott who arranged a very interesting program for our visit. We were treated to a tour of their map collection, presentations by several of their faculty members and students, and a scrumptious lunch. Our second field trip took us to the David H. Davies Memorial Library at the Oceanographic Research Institute of the South African Association for Marine Biological Research located at uShaka Marine World in Durban. In addition to a tour of the facilities, including the library, the director of the Institute, Rudy van der Elst, gave a very interesting presentation about the research taking place at the institute and the environmental problems the region faces especially as they pertain to the marine ecosystem.

Most of the 2006-2007 year was spent recruiting new members. We were moderately successful in this endeavor and were able to add several new members to our roster. However, the down side was that we also lost several members with the end result being that our membership remained about the same.

At the 73rd IFLA conference in Seoul the Rare Books and Manuscript Section had proposed a jointly sponsored satellite meeting to be held in conjunction with the IFLA conference in Quebec City in 2008. The topic suggested was "Rare Maps of North America: Their Cultural Significance, Their Research Value, and Their Security." Although the RBM Section did submit a proposal to IFLA HQ, there was very little activity during the course of the year and communication between the two sections was very limited. At the Durban, South Africa IFLA conference the newly elected chair of the RBM Section indicated during our Standing Committee II meeting that the theme of the satellite meeting had changed. The topic now is "Map as Page, Map as Print: How Maps Intersect with Books and Prints." Mark Dimunation, Library of Congress, would be the organizer of the satellite meeting and it would be held in Washington, DC August 6-7, 2008.

The Section produced one newsletter during the past year, one less than had originally been planned. Work on the "Guidelines for Handling Paper Maps in Libraries" is still a work in progress. Based on data collected at a workshop organized by David McQuillan that was held in Washington, DC in May 2005, the compilation of the data has now been taken over by Marcy Allen, Penn State University.

Works still in progress include the feasibility of establishing a clearinghouse for digital spatial data, a revision of the World Directory of Map Collections (4th ed.), and the possibility of creating a listserv for map librarians. A tentative committee was set up to further explore the content and format of a revised version of the directory. Members include Marcy Allen, Véronique Thome, and Anita Oser. There has also been some discussion with the Genealogy and Local History Section about sponsoring joint programs in the future and the general topic of membership issues. Plans are well underway for the Section's Open Session at WLIC: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council in Quebec City, Canada, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita K. Oser, Chair
Geography and Map Libraries Section

NOTE: The Annual Report is also available on our IFLA webpage: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s6/annual/sp06-2009.htm>.

STRATEGIC PLAN

There was considerable discussion pertaining to the Section's Strategic Plan. A number of changes were suggested. The suggested changes have been incorporated into the document and the revised version of the Strategic Plan is as follows and is also available on our webpage <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s6/annual/sp06-2009.htm>.

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP LIBRARIES SECTION

Strategic Plan 2007 – 2009

MISSION

The Section is an international forum to promote and coordinate the collection, storage, and access to geographic and cartographic information. It provides communication between and the professional development of map librarians and curators. The Section's objectives are to initiate projects, studies, and workshops. The findings of each are published in the form of technical monographs, occasional papers, standards, cataloging rules, manuals, directories, bibliographies, newsletters, etc. Close liaison with cartographic, geographic, and related organizations is created and maintained.

GOALS

1. Monitor the progress of updates to ISBD, keep in contact with responsible parties, and share the document with the global cartographic community to insure integrity and promote compliance.

(Professional priorities: (i) Promoting standards, guidelines, and best practices)

ACTIONS

- 1.1 Monitor the progress of updates to ISBD.
 - 1.2 Keep in contact with those involved in ISBD activities.
2. To educate the library community about the varied uses of cartographic information; to promote the use of cartographic information, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS); to promote the archiving of digital cartographic materials; to promote the collection and preservation of paper and other hard copy cartographic items; and to promote the Section as a means of collaboration and communication.

(Professional priorities: (f) Promoting resource sharing; (g) Preserving our intellectual heritage; (h) Developing library professionals)

ACTIONS

- 2.1 Educate the library community about the varied uses of cartographic information.
- 2.2 Promote the use of cartographic information, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- 2.3 Promote the archiving of digital cartographic materials.
- 2.4 Promote the collection and preservation of paper and other hard copy cartographic items.
- 2.5 Promote the Section as a means of collaboration and communication.
 - 2.5a The Section will look for sponsors and co-sponsors for conference programs and workshops on acquisitions, cataloging, storage and access, preservation and scanning, digitization, GIS, metadata, etc.
 - 2.5b The Section will invite speakers of varied backgrounds
 - 2.5c The Section will identify other means of promoting cooperation and collaboration with other IFLA sections, national associations and institutions.

2.5d The Section will contact regional cartographic associations and institutions in areas where future conferences will be held, to invite participation in the conference and activities of the Section.

3. Revise the World Directory of Map Collections, 4th ed., 2000

(Professional priorities: (f) Promote resource sharing)

ACTIONS

- 3.1 Establish a working committee
- 3.2 Determine the content, format, and methods of publication
- 3.3 Prepare a proposal for updating the directory
- 3.4 Begin the data collection process

4. Promote membership of the Section

(Professional priorities: (h) Developing library professionals)

ACTIONS

- 4.1 Contact libraries and library organizations that may be interested in joining the Section
- 4.2 Contact IFLA members who are not Section members and invite them to join the Section
- 4.3 Prepare a brochure to promote the Section
- 4.4 Invite former Standing Committee members to continue their membership in the Section as Personal Affiliates

23Nov07



SLA members enjoying an evening out