

# IFLA - Information Technology Section

## Standing Committee Meetings, San Juan, Puerto Rico

### Minutes of meetings

#### Standing Committee Meeting – 13 August 2011

##### Presiding Officers (3):

Reinhard **Altenhöner** (Germany), Chair; Alenka **Kavčič-Čolić** (Slovenia), Secretary; Edmund **Balnaves** (Australia), Information Officer

##### Standing Committee members present (7):

Emmanuelle **Bermès** (France), Antonin **Benoit Diouf** (Senegal), Frank **Cervone** (USA), Nina **Hyvönen** (Finland), Annika **Lund** (Finland), Shawky **Salem** (Egypt), Lars G. **Svensson** (Germany),

##### Apologies for absence received from (4):

Giuliana de **Francesco** (Italy), Alexeis **Garcia Pérez** (United Kingdom), Cindy **Hill** (USA), Zhixiong **Zhang** (China)

##### Other Standing Committee members absent (16 – including incoming and outgoing members):

Jonas **Ahlberg** (Sweden), José Luis **Bueren Gómez-Acebo** (Spain), Mikhail **Goncharov** (Russian Federation), Nazha **Hachad** (Morocco), Karen **Keiller** (Canada), Tiina **Ison** (Finland), Vivekanand **Jain** (India), Lesiba Steve **Ledwaba** (South Africa), Belén **Llera Cermeño** (Spain), Eva **Müller** (Sweden), Andrea **Marchitelli** (Italy), Penny **Robertson** (United Kingdom), Sue **Stimpson** (Canada), Dawei **Wei** (China), Hee-kyung **Yoo** (Republic of Korea),

##### Guests (11):

Marcus **Akkorli** (Ghana), Brian **Bannon** (USA), Steve **Bergen** (ATLA), Darcas **Bowler** (Bahamas), Mary Jane **Carangal** (ADB), Patrick **Danowski** (Austria), Dierk **Eichel** (Germany), Zakari **Mohammed** (Nigeria), Takashi **Nagatsaka** (Japan), Graciela **Quesado Fernández** (Costa Rica), Erick **Toussaint** (Haiti Project Fokal)

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#### 1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed the Committee members, especially the new ones, and guests.

#### 2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

#### 3. Wrap-up participants: trends and figures

All participants were asked to introduce themselves and briefly describe their vision about the IT future trends and IT developments considered necessary in their local environment. Their initiatives would be a guideline for the IFLA IT Section activities with a special regard to the 2012 program, to be discussed during the next ITS SC meeting.

Alenka Kavčič Čolić pointed out that Ms Ingrid Parent, the incoming IFLA President, announced that the main theme of the next conference will be “Libraries – a force for change”, that is looking to inclusion, transformation, innovation and convergence as regards the access to knowledge. The theme sprang up during discussing topics and various ideas, The attendants’ ideas and proposal are summarized below:

- Problem of **different types of technologies** and the existing barriers among different media. We should think on centres for multipackages for e-content. The media would be engaged across the full breadth of technologies. (Prof. Shawky Salem)
- **Semantic web technologies** can improve the use of library data: semantic web linked data and User persistent identifiers for digital preservation (Emmanuelle Bermes and Lars G

- Sevensson); need of RDA development. IFLA needs close cooperation between librarians, bibliographic professional and IT professionals (Nena Hooeven)
- Problem of **primary research data and repositories** – metadata and standards, open access, data imaging, semantic web, managing library information science and technology (Patrick Danowsky)
  - **Libraries in the developing world** - We need new projects to bring computer to libraries – network of small libraries; sharing resources in small libraries scattered across small islands with internet connection (Eric Toussaint and Dorcas Bowler); Libraries as important factor in reduction of crime. How to make available basic infrastructure for providing access to educational content and entertainment for users in the developing world (Marcus Akkorli);
  - **Professional development** - How to make a change in the library, problems of education and new look into IT (Graciela Quesado Fernandez) - Impact of the large shift to electronic resources in libraries – change of roles in the profession (Mary Jane Carangh); More cooperation between libraries and IT professionals – terminology, joint projects etc. (Frank Cervone)
  - **How to increase the access to digital content**; what are the copyright obstacles – different development countries – very small libraries – virtual libraries and communities (Mary Jane -Asian Development Bank)
  - **Open source in libraries** - FOSS in libraries (Edmund Balnaves); promotion of digital libraries software – INVENUE (integrated library system) – integrated in schools next year; proposal of a new SIG in open source (Antonin Bennoit). How we can cooperate with the vendors that produce the data – producers of open source - future oriented RFID; support small and special libraries implementing new technologies and new tech open link data implementation (Dierk Eichel)
  - **Use of web 2.0 solutions** – public library web 2.0 new project - Open libraries 2013 KOHA open library 2013 - use Koha & Evergreen (Annika Lund)
  - How we can **push library services to meet the user demands**, key events - digital inclusion, involved in projects of link data – how to archive social media outputs – open access – digital library of America – web 2.0 media literacy (Brian Bannan); Problems of e-book lending, institutional repositories (Takashi Nagatsuka)
  - **Digital archiving workflows** (Alenka Kavčič-Čolić)

#### 4. Approval of Gothenburg minutes

The Committee members approved the minutes of the Gothenburg meetings.

5. **ITS activities 2010-2011 / SIGs** – The members of the SC received by mail a brief list of the events organized by the section.

#### 6. ITS-officers 2011 – 2013 elections

The members of the IT SC unanimously elected Alenka Kavčič-Čolić as Chair and Frank Cervone as Secretary of the IT SC.

7. **San Juan 2011 & 7. IT sessions – last settings / coordination** – since there was a limited time for discussion on different topics, it was decided to organize three different informal meetings on:

- open source solutions for libraries – organized by Edmund Balnaves
- semantic web – organized by Emmanuelle Bermmes
- professional development – organized by Alenka Kavčič-Čolić.

8. **Last arrangements / information / Report from the Coordinating Board** – Reinhard Altenhöner reported on the meeting of the Division III Coordinating Board, which took place on Friday 12 August 2011.

**9. Future programme** (Helsinki, Finland) – this issue was postponed to the next meeting.

**10. Satellite Conference in Helsinki, Finland**

Last year in Gothenburg the IT Section planned a satellite meeting on the semantic web. Unfortunately, we did not have any guarantee from the Finish National Library that the conference would take place. It was agreed to speak with the Finish delegates during the conference and see the possibilities of organizing such an event.

**11. SC IT social event** – Alenka Kavčič-Čolić will inform about the location and date of the traditional section dinner.

**12. Cooperation with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation:** ATLA program – Steve Bergen presented to the SC the program Access To Learning Award.

# IFLA - Information Technology Section

## Minutes of meetings

### Standing Committee Meeting - 17 August 2011

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Alenka **Kavčič-Čolić** (Slovenia), Chair; Frank **Cervone** (USA), Secretary; Edmund **Balnaves** (Australia), Information Officer

#### Standing Committee members present (7):

Reinhard **Altenhöner** (Germany), Emmanuelle **Bermès** (France), Lesiba Steve **Ledwaba** (South Africa), Annika **Lund** (Finland), Shawky **Salem** (Egypt), Lars G. **Svensson** (Germany), Zhixiong **Zhang** (China)

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#### Guests (5):

Patrick **Danowski** (Austria), Dierk **Eichel** (Germany), Zakari **Mohammed** (Nigeria), Frank **Seeliger** (Germany), Paul **Tereshchenko** (Russian Federation)

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#### 12. Guidelines for statistics and repositories (standards and protocols) (Eva Muller and Edmund Balnaves)

Eva Muller received no follow up interest in a joint session on open source for statistical information sharing from the Statistics and Evaluation section. Since the main topic was already in train, it was decided not to proceed with this idea for Puerto Rico.

#### 13. FOSS (Free Open Source Software) activities and related topics around initiatives for developing countries - a need for a new SIG?

A working group was formed with a focus on Open Source. Interested members met during the conference with an objective of:

- Establishing a sub-site in IFLA.ORG focussed on open source issues
- Planning for a further workshop in this area
- Building additional resources on the IFLA website

#### 14. Highlights, expectations and experiences of the 2011 Conference - the discussion concentrated on the three working groups, which reported on the decisions taken:

##### REPORT OF THE OPEN SOURCE WORKING GROUP

The working group on the Open source sees opportunities for fostering open source on several fronts:

- (1) An under-recognised factor in open source adoption is the need for a support framework. This can be in the form of commercial services businesses or better resourced institutions supporting a group of libraries regionally. Supporting the development of regional support groups to increase the accessibility for adoption of open source systems.
- (2) Developing understanding of the Open Source through one of the following at Helsinki:
  - a. An open source workshop focussed on Digital libraries (perhaps with a Law focus) as a one day workshop in Helsinki. Possible title: "Digital Libraries – making open source work for you"
  - b. A joint session with other sections during the Helsinki focussed on more theoretical aspects of open source:
    - i. Models for support
    - ii. Inter-operability between open source systems
    - iii. New innovations in Open source ( possibly for digital libraries).
- (3) Promoting the use of the open source in library schools to encourage exposure to a wider range of technologies.

Dr Balnaves reported on the experience of presenting workshops on Koha and Dspace in Parliamentary libraries. Dr Zhang Zhixion reported on workshops on Digital Libraries and Open source held in Beijing during the last two years. Dr Zhixion also noted the innovations that have effectively been used in China such as the Natural Language parsing system GATE developed by the Shepherd University. Dr Takashi Nagatsuka also indicated that among 500 universities, some 16% use institutional repositories as course materials. The National Institute of Informatics has been fostering the use of repositories based on one source in Japanese universities.

Parliamentary Libraries section and the Global Centre for ICT have expressed support for a workshop.

#### **SEMANTIC WEB WORKING GROUP**

It seems that there was no interest in organized the planned satellite meeting in Finland. We should think about postponing it in Singapore. Probably other sections will be interested in cooperation.

Regarding the activities of the semantic web group, they will be reduced to the SIG.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

The delegates attending the meeting on Sunday 14 August 2011 discussed the possibilities of dedicate a session to the professional development of library staff, focused on information technology. Frank Cervone suggested that we should rather discuss about cooperation i.e. interaction between library and information science and information technology professionals. The topics that such a session could cover are:

- Cooperation between IT people and librarians in library systems development
- Librarians' communication skills and knowledge in information technology development
- Impact of the management of change produced by new technology (change management) on library staff
- Influence of IT developments on organizational change and culture
- IT literacy of library staff.

After a discussion with the representatives of Education and training section, the idea to focus the topic on mobile devices sprang up. The main argument lies on the fact that most of library users in underdeveloped or developing countries have mobile phones, but do not have internet. If the librarians knew more about this technology, they would be more efficient in providing users with more library contents.

**15. Paper nominated by the ITS SC for publication in the IFLA Newsletter** – The delegates of the SC will receive a list and will be asked to vote on the best paper to be published in the IFLA Newsletter.

**16. Finalization: Arrangements for future programme** – it was decided to organize the main session on risk management systems.

**17. First steps to WLIC 2013** - A discussion about the possibility of organizing the satellite meeting on the semantic web in Singapore arose. The issue is still open.

**18. Decisions on the SC website / information platform**

The newsletter will no longer be published in a print form – discussion is required as to the format for a revised newsletter.

Edmund Balnaves will request establishment of three subsites:

- \* [ifla.org/semanticweb](http://ifla.org/semanticweb)
- \* [ifla.org/rfid](http://ifla.org/rfid)
- \* [ifla.org/opensource](http://ifla.org/opensource)

**19. Other subjects** – All members of the ITS SC will be invited to give their comments and suggestions to the Strategic Plan Priority Activities for 2011-2012.

Minutes prepared by Alenka Kavčič-Čolić