



## **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Knowledge Management Section (SC no. 47) Annual Report 2010**

2010 was the first full year for the Knowledge Management Section working under its 2010-2012 Strategic Plan. The Plan states a mission to provide an international platform to support the development and implementation of a Knowledge Management (KM) culture through work in the following areas:

- Raise the awareness of KM among libraries, librarians and their institutions
- Provide relevant education and training
- Identify and share best practices
- Promote evidence-based practice
- Disseminate the results of relevant research
- Create an interactive virtual repository and forum for gathering and exchanging KM info, encouraging conversations, and
- Maintain close contact with other IFLA Sections and Core activities to integrate KM into IFLA and the library and information community.

### **Core Activities:**

#### **Meetings: August 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden**

The KM Standing Committee met twice during the Gothenburg Conference. 27 people attended the first meeting and 19 people attended the second meeting. The principle agenda items included communications improvements, Gothenburg open session summaries, and plans for San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 2011. Chair Xuemao (Shimo) Wang pursued marketing and re-branding the Knowledge Management Section, by using the new motto for the Section developed by the Standing Committee: "Voice of Global KM".

### **Progress on strategic platform:**

The Section members made great strides during the year toward raising awareness of KM in the community and within IFLA. The KM Section newsletter, edited by Christel Mahnke, released two issues and won an award for the most improved newsletter at the Gothenburg conference. The newsletters, #11 and #12 are available from the IFLA KM website.

A new Section brochure was produced by Standing Committee member Lois Chan before the meeting and was in print and online in time for the conference.

Copies of the newsletter, session programs and the Section brochure were distributed during the conference and raised awareness for the sessions and the Standing Committee meetings. In these meetings, IFLA members new to the KM Section were invited to participate actively, share their ideas and actively support the Section's work. Several new members joined the KM Section.

New methods of social communication with the wider community were further explored after implementation the previous year. The initiative was jointly led by Jane Dysart and Christel Mahnke. The Facebook group, "IFLA KM: The Voice of Global KM," has currently 107 members. The IFLA KM group in LinkedIn has 199 members, and some lively discussions. The Twitter hash tag, #IFLA KM is widely used during conferences and for announcements. Alas, the KM blog <[blogs.ifla.org/km](http://blogs.ifla.org/km)> did not draw as much attention as expected.

Social media proved to be an appropriate channel to share and distribute information about KM and its development and practical implementation to all IFLA members and other librarians interested in KM. The practical use of KM in libraries was shared with the KM community and therefore enhanced the visibility of libraries.

The officers and committee chairs of the Standing Committee -- the leadership team -- met monthly via Skype technology, enabling them to work out the details of the Gothenburg conference program followed by planning for the Puerto Rico program.

### **Conference Program, Gothenburg, Sweden:**

The SC sponsored a two-hour open program by itself and participated in planning for three others. The KM Open Session was on the topic "Voice of Global KM" and was attended by over 300 participants. The four speakers who presented were well received. All four papers were available on the conference web site in advance along with two more papers whose presenters could not come to the conference. One of these two papers was revised by the author and published in the newsletter.

The program papers supported various areas identified in the KM Section's 2010-2012 Strategic Plan. The Keynote paper, [Knowledge management and leadership](#), by Margareta Nelke (IC. at Once, Råå, Sweden), and the paper [Global development aid through intellectual engagement and social media](#), by Richard Santos Lalleman (Focuss.Info, Netherlands), identified and shared best practices.

Evidence-based practice was the focus of the papers [Managing knowledge resources at International IDEA](#), by Frances Lesser and Monika Ericson (IDEA, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Stockholm, Sweden), and [Development of integrated application system in digital medicine - priorities and strategies for the use of health information in China military hospitals](#), by Wenju Zhang, Yan Li and Huaijun Gong (Medical Library of Chinese People's Liberation Army, Beijing, China). And two papers disseminated the results of relevant research: [Die Mannheimer Zentralbibliothek implementiert die "Wissensbilanz – Made in Germany"](#), by Tom Becker (Mannheim Public Library / Central Library, Mannheim, Germany), and [Multidisciplinary collaboration: A necessity for curriculum innovation](#), by Pieter H. Du Toit (Department of Humanities Education, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa), Ann-Louise De Boer and Theo Bothma (Department of Information Science, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa).

Program evaluation forms were distributed with many positive comments. The Program Development Committee for this session was chaired by Agnes Hajdu Barat and included Standing Committee members Stuart Basefsky and Karolien Selhorst.

The SC collaborated with a number of other Sections on programs. One was an Open Session joint with Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning and Information Technology on "Global Learning Systems". Another collaboration was a session on the topic "Librarians in Action: Information policy and human rights." This session was joint with Government Libraries, Government Information and Official Publications, Preservation and Conservation, and Law Libraries. The last joint program was with Information Technology and Classification and Indexing on the topic "Libraries and the Semantic Web."

At the 2011 San Juan conference, KM planned to collaborate with other IFLA Sections again with joint session programs developed with the following Sections: Bibliography, IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Digital Strategies Programme (ICADS), Information Technology, National Libraries, Law Libraries, Government Libraries, and Government Information and Official Publications. A "Knowledge Cafe" is planned with Library & Research Services for Parliaments.

The broad range of cooperating Sections shows the ongoing integration of KM into IFLA and the library and information community.

**Membership:**

The KM Section has 58 regular members, 5 personal members and 6 student members for a total of 69.

Members of the Standing Committee in December 2010 are:

Agnes Hajdu Barat  
Stuart Basefsky  
Theo J. D. Bothma  
Leda Bultrini  
Lois Mai Chan  
Jane Dysart  
Judy J. Field  
Elisabeth Freyre  
Olga Lavik  
Christel Mahnke  
Ruth Pagell  
Karolien Selhorst  
Xuemao (Shimo) Wang  
Claire McInerney

Corresponding Members:

Jasper Maenzanise  
Zhigiang Zhang  
Susmita Chakraborty  
Boujdad Hamid

**Officers/Leaders:  
2009-2011**

**Chair and Treasurer:**

Xuemao (Shimo) Wang  
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*This annual report is prepared by Sally McCallum, Secretary, Xuemao Wang, Chair, and with contribution from Christel Mahnke, Newsletter Editor.*

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