

IFLA: School Libraries and Resource Centers Section

Chairs and Treasurers Report 2007 and 2008

Chairs Report

2007/8 were relatively quiet years for the Section as the new Chair and Secretary got to grips with the intricacies of IFLA.

The Section has 61 members. The Standing Committee has a number of vacancies.

In 2007 the lack of nominations for the posts of Chair and Secretary led to the Election of the current Officers by the SC in Durban. Both Durban and Quebec SC Meetings suffered from a lack attendance by Committee Members although a number of observers were present. Of those who did attend a number were new to IFLA and the SC so the Chair was particularly glad of the help given by the Secretariat and those longer term SC Members then and over the following two years.

Durban – the Session was part of a morning organised by Division 3 and I chaired the first part of the morning with four excellent speakers from South Africa, Spain, China and Chile who papers focussed on social inclusion. Both the strategic papers and the case studies showed the willingness of librarians to take on new goals and deliver services without many new resources. Division 3 also ran an excellent session focussing on health issues. Barbara Immroth was the contributor to this Session on behalf of the Section.

Quebec – This Session was run jointly with the Multicultural Section and its focus was on the School Library providing pathways for all groups within a population to maximise their potential. Dianne Oberg from Canada spoke on the tools for achievement through research. Gry Enger from Norway gave an impassioned talk on her work following students from school the workplace showing how the school Library had empowered the students. Hirono Aoyama-Yazawa spoke on the use of new and different teaching styles which had been used to help students. A paper was delivered on behalf Elmir Yakubov about the use of Reading Groups with gangs. Despite having the last Session of the day over 200 delegates attended.

In Quebec the Section made plans for Milan including agreeing to take part in and promote the Post Conference Meeting with IASL on "Reading in the Digital Age". This has been organised by Donatella Lombello of the University of Padua on behalf of the IASL and a number of IFLA delegates will be attending. As outgoing Chair I am pleased to be able to Chair part of the day and wish to congratulate the IASL on the full and diverse programme they have created.

As Chair I would like to thank all those Standing Committee Members who have actively supported both me and the Section over the last two years.

Karen P.H. Usher MCLIP, Hon. FCLIP

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Treasurers Report

2008 – No funds were spent in 2008