IFLA Genre/form Working Group
July 15, 2020
Zoom meeting, 4 PM CET

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Ricardo Santos, Ana Stevanović, George Prager, Rehab Ouf, Richard Sapon White, Brenna Bychowski, Iris O’Brien
Observer: Aida Slavić

After the introduction, the first topic was a discussion on publishing the results of the task “Develop a list of resources relating to genre/form initiatives worldwide, and make this list publicly available on the IFLA website,” agreed to in Kuala Lumpur and reported on in Athens.

Before the meeting, short reports were sent by Ricardo to WG members about the current state of this project, which could be summed up as follows: the resources gathered during 2019 and presented in Athens were arranged, compiled and presented for publication, but have not yet been published due to several causes. As agreed to in Athens, Richard and Iris volunteered for exploring Google Forms, and prepared two forms for gathering more information, either from the sections or from the wider community. (Genre/Form resources form: https://forms.gle/6bYQxh889jv3BGeE7; Genre/Form references form: https://forms.gle/8129mnEVFDfeKzyT6)

The main concern was how to make gathered resources and these forms publicly available. WG members agreed that the WG web page is the right place for publishing, although the web page needs some cleaning and restructuring (see later). In order to make the information resources more visible and useful, members agreed to open and distribute the forms to colleagues worldwide.

Suggested places for publicity were the IFLA Metadata Newsletter, the IFLA-SUBJ list, and other relevant genre/form, faceted vocabulary, and subject lists such as the SACO list hosted by the Library of Congress or UK cataloguing lists, e.g. CIG-E-Forum, etc.

WG members also agreed that the documents need context and explanation, so it was decided to create a new section on the WG web page titled Ongoing/Current Projects.
This issue will be further discussed with our web editors Harriet Aagaard and Caroline Saccucci.

Revision of WG Tasks: next topic of the Agenda was Revision of WG Tasks. WG Members agreed to share their comments about a list of WG tasks in a document created by the co-chairs. This document is at the following link:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/109yt3Gw_7AKoWo4mfrw_PCB-tpXq1t0SbvSk7pv0HiY/edit?usp=sharing

The idea was for WG members to suggest removing, rephrasing or deleting current tasks. And to suggest new tasks. The deadline will be August 20th, 2020. During the discussion on WG Tasks, members suggested removing the list from the web page, making it available only to WG members and at the same time creating a space for publishing documents about current and past projects. Members are encouraged to make suggestions on web page redesign. On the following link you will find a document that represents our web page. A couple of suggestions were made by co-chairs. Please feel free to comment, add suggestions and revise it.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mUhRLPZznLmme5tC575R1YZ0wszKDkYq/edit#heading=h.gjdgs

New ideas and new projects for WG:
Because of the pandemic situation, WG members decided to focus on online events. Richard suggested exploring organizing online events about ongoing research on G/F or projects on genre/form topics. This idea will be further discussed with the SA&A SC chair.

Ana Stevanović
Ricardo Santos