Government Information and Official Publications Section

Standing Committee Meeting II

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Saturday, August 21, 2004
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Present:
Patricia Aranda-Torres
Beth Clausen
Jacqueline Druery
Eleanor Frierson
Frank Kirkwood, Parliamentary Libraries
Claude Lecebier
Jerry Mansfield
Catherine Morse
Irja Peltonen
Sandy Peterson, Recording
Peter Raggett, Acting Secretary
Swanson, Edward, Chair, Division V
Emma Voskanyan
Jane Wu, Acting Chair

1. Review and Approval of Agenda

Jane Wu proposed that SC II follow essentially the same agenda as SC I where relevant. This approach was approved.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the first meeting were deferred for approval by email.

3. Business Arising

RE: 4.1 E. Frierson reported that GIOPS members were successful in selling the 100 books of Raffle tickets.

RE: 4.3 GIOPS Open Session. On Agenda, Item 6a)

Jerry Mansfield, Government Libraries Section further reported on the proposal to develop Guidelines for Government Libraries and Information Centers. GIOPS and the Government Libraries Committee are jointly working on them. The GIOPS representative is Irja Peltonen. Nancy Bolt at Nancy.Bolt@earthlink.net can provide an electronic copy of the draft proposal. The first draft of the guidelines is to be ready in January 2005. Eleanor Frierson moved to support this project; Peter Raggett seconded. Motion approved.

4. Report from the Coordinating Board, Administrative Matters

Jane Wu reported on training for IFLA officers, including feedback from Coordinating Board and the Chair of the Professional Committee. Effort will be made to document how standing committee members are elected, how officers are elected and the rights of officers.

Jane Wu will get a full list of the GIOPS Standing Committee members and a list of which institutions are eligible to nominate members. The present GIOPS Coordinating Board serves through the Oslo conference (both meetings). New chair and secretary of the Sections do the voting on coordinating board; no voting by proxy. This was recently clarified. Next year is the election of GIOPS Secretary and Chair (Jan. 2006). Nominees to the Section are put forward in January; there is an election if more than 20 persons nominated.

5. IFLA Booth

GIOPS members staffed the IFLA booth from 11-12 on Wednesday. Peter Raggett and Emma Voskanyan who had volunteered to staff it had a number of recommendations:

1) A computer with Internet access should be available at the Booth to show visitors the websites of the various Sections.

2) GIOPS needs brochures for the booth, something to hand out to visitors. We have German, Russian, French and English, but we needed the Spanish version. Possibly we could have a handout or bookmark in one language in Oslo (English).

6. Subcommittee Reports

a. Conference Subcommittee (Eleanor Frierson)

There was discussion that GIOPS members were unable to participate in library visits because program conflicted. It was agreed that Thursday afternoon was a poor time for the GIOPS open session program and we would like to have our program scheduled earlier in this conference week.
The presentations had to compete with the only scheduled library tours and attendance was low, in the range of 100-125 attendees.
This was a pity because the speakers were excellent and provided a different perspective from the published papers.
The situation was embarrassing for the SC who had encouraged many high profile speakers to participate.
The SC had therefore expected a large attendance and consequently had requested a large room and simultaneous translation.
It was agreed to discuss this matter at the Division V Meeting and to request the Chair of the Division to take it forward as a concern to the Coordinating Board.

However it was agreed that:

- it was great to have interpreters; copies of the papers were provided to the interpreters to facilitate translation.
- The short presentations were a good model.
- Papers will be on the web site if they are not already.

Next year the conference will be one day shorter so care will be necessary to avoid conflicts.
GIOPS was requested to make recommendations for publication in the IFLA Journal. It was agreed to recommend all of the major presentations.

The Committee expressed its appreciation that Emma Voskanyan offered to translate all of the papers into Russian.

OSLO 2005
The Subcommittee had met and developed the title/theme in harmony with that of the overall IFLA Conference of Voyage of Discovery. The chosen theme was “Sailing the treacherous seas of digital government information: from pamphlet box to digital library”. The Program Sub-Committee will attempt to get the users’ point of view as well as that of the producers and the librarians.

b. Publications

GIOPS Web Site
Jane Wu requested that members review the web site by November 1st for changes/revisions/additions. The GIOPS newsletter will include the power point presentations or summaries if possible.
Emphasis in the future will be on making web site multilingual, especially the “about us” GIOPS page. This was one of the strategic objectives. It was agreed to attempt to have a revised English version by the end of October and then prepare other language versions after that.

c. Seminars
No further information had been received because both contacts for the seminar at the Economic Commission on Africa in Ethiopia were unable to attend the Conference.

d. **GIOPS Discussion Group Listserv**

The listserv will be moved to IFLA following the conference.

7. **Elections**

N/A

8. **Treasurer’s Report (Eleanor Frierson for Pamela Tripp-Melby)**

Eleanor Frierson moved to approve the Treasurer’s report; it was seconded and approved.

9. **Other Business**

**Announcements**
Frank Kirkwood, Parliamentary Library of Canada, is interested in any group that is working on “democracy”.

**President’s Session**
Discussion was about partnerships, orientation to IFLA, IFLA information available in more languages (besides English and Spanish). The recommendations and report will be completed and distributed.

**Other**
Jane Wu will distribute the officers’ documents, including timetables.

**Chair, Division V**
Edward Swanson thanked GIOPS for its contributions to the IFLA conference; he noted the comments regarding conference scheduling.

**Government Information and Official Publications Section:**
http://www.ifla.org/VII/s17/index.htm