Projects financed by IFLA’s Professional Committee (PC) in 2008
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Professional Unit  Academic and Research Libraries Section

Project title  Guidelines for Library to Library Development Partnerships

description  Goals of the Project - The project aims to develop the following: (1) Call for libraries in the developed world who are willing to partner with a library in a developing country stating requirements and expectations; (2) Call for libraries in the developing world who wish to be partnered with a library in the developed world stating requirements and expectations; (3) Guidelines for partner institutions and (4) How to review, evaluate and terminate partnerships over time.

background  The Section is very aware of the need to offer members tangible benefits of membership in addition to the once-a-year congress. The idea to offer 'partnership opportunities' came from a very successful 'experiment' held at the Durban congress, where the Section held a 'mentoring session'/ More experienced professionals could provide advice and support to less experienced congress attendees. This mentoring session was attended by approx. 300 people, and was very enthusiastically received. The SC meeting II considered feedback provided by participants at this session and developed the Project outline to extend the benefit to staff in a library (as opposed to individuals) in a developing country. Already the University & Research Library section of CILIP (UK) has approached the Chair about how they can be involved, so this group will form a nucleus of libraries willing to become more engaged in IFLA activities and to reap the reward to 'giving back to the professional' by mentoring other library staff.

start  January 2008

end  end 2009

people involved  Stephen Marvin, Principal Investigator; Sue McKnight, Supervisor; Nol Verhagen, Supervisor

PC funds  € 2.000,00

other funds  In kind and matching support by various organizations; West Chester University, Nottingham Trent University, IATUL Library Twinning Initiative; University & Research Library section of CILIP and numerous volunteers

comments  In the process of surveying organizations throughout the world, it was found a serious absence in responses from Latin America perhaps due to the language or to the lack of available partnership developments. The response rate was 75% from North America early on and then dropped to 46% as more areas reported across the globe.
Professional Unit  Government Libraries Section

Project title  Guidelines for Government Libraries

description  Through collaboration with the Government Information and Official Publications Section of IFLA and the creation of a project committee from the section the team worked to present basic guidelines and best practices for Government Libraries.

background  Several years of brainstorming, planning, meetings, writing, and hearings culminated with this working guide for managers and line staff of government libraries. The project is now complete and the Government Libraries Section were pleased to launch the guidelines at the IFLA Congress in Quebec.

In the preparation and authoring of the guidelines a truly international collaboration, led by Nancy Bolt created a community of government librarians working together. The team collaborated using email and many attended in person the Government Libraries Sections mid-term conference.

result  The project delivered guidelines designed to help government officials recognise the importance of the libraries of government departments and to propose means to make them even more effective to meet the needs of elected officials, staff, the general public and any other users. The guidelines also provide assistance and advice to librarians as they seek to improve the collection and the services that they offer. The guidelines have been well received by colleagues across the globe, and have been the catalyst for contributors and readers to develop their services, become international colleagues and personal friends.

Of particular note was the assistance of the IFLA team in helping us to promote and disseminate the use of the Guidelines to government libraries and library schools in developing countries. The committee identified that accessing the online version could be difficult if local internet access was limited, or that the work of the section had not come easily to their attention. This was actioned through a mailing of printed copies to over 38 recipients.

start  2007
end  2008
people involved  Nancy Bolt, Sanjay K.Bihani, Suxanne Burge, Hannah Fischer, Maria Goeckeritz, Sue Westcott and Jane Wu

PC funds  € 1.200,00
other funds  none

related stories  For the first time, the section held a mid-term conference in Wales in April 2007 attended by 32 librarians from Europe, the US, and India. The theme of the conference was Government Libraries: Creating Impact from Information. A key activity for the conference attendees was to review the first full draft of the Guidelines for Government Libraries.

Key speakers at the conference included Claudia Lux, IFLA incoming President; Arwel Jones, Dr. Geraint Evans; Ian Snowley, President of CILIP; Ian Thomson, Director of the South Wales Europe Direct Information Center; and Mary Bone, Chatham House Think Tank Librarian.

As part of the conference the organizing team in Wales had arranged a visit to the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth. The weather in April in Wales can be (usually) rainy and cool. On our arrival at the National Library, after our 3 hour coach journey, the sun broke through and the temperature hit almost 20 degrees! This meant that visitors to the National Library were confronted with small breakout groups of international government librarians each considering a chapter from the guidelines, basking in the sun and animatedly discussing the content. This was possibly the best way to celebrate our first draft, and to work together on the additional suggestions we had!

The launch of the publication during the IFLA annual congress in Québec City, August 2008
Professional Unit  Public Library Section

Project title  Caterpillar Project

description  The Caterpillar Bookbox is a folding case, 1.8m high on castors, and the shelves accommodate approximately 100 books together with a crate depot of c500 books to replenish the stock. A pilot scheme was established in Koekenaap, RSA, a very poor farming area where 60% of the adults are illiterate and only 30% of nine year olds can read. Nomads who earn a living during the grape season, which lasts only three months a year .The Caterpillar Bookbox is their only access to books.

background  An ongoing Project conceived by the former Mobile Library Section at IFLA conference 2003. It is based on designs drawn in the UK and sent to Africa and built by local labour. Announced at IFLA World Congress in Durban and on the IFLANET in 2007 and applications were received and considered. The bid from Burkina Faso Library accepted in 2008. Towards the end of 2008, local carpenters were building the first boxes. The aim of the Public Library Section was to seedfund further Caterpillar Bookboxes, to be placed in other communities in Africa which should contain books and health information on HIV and AIDS.

start  2006
end  2009

people involved  Ian Stringer (UK) Project leader, Ruth Ornholt (Norway) Project member, Joyce Jelks (USA) Project member, June Baatjes (RSA(South Africa)) Local project manager, Oumou Ouedraogo Burkina Faso Local Project manager

PC funds  € 1.500,00 for Burkina Faso

other funds  The local librarian for the project has been able to procure local government funding to add onto our initial seed funding.


Inside story  June Baatjes gave an update on the project in South Africa: 'I have been working for the minister of Education in the Western Cape since June. He was very impressed with the Caterpillar Project. He wanted one in every class and I said lets start small. The Caterpillar has undergone a metamorphosis. I have developed the BABY CAT as I call it. Twenty of these very practical Caterpillars were launched in February and given to pre-schools attached to primary schools. The one I developed according to our original design is at TONKO BOSMAN in the Stellenbosch Wine farming district. I was given sufficient money for 20 BABY CATS and I wish to give 23 of the new streamlined version, which has a white interactive board as well, to the Adult Basic Education And Training Centres (ABET) where adult learners, especially farm workers learn to become literate.
Professional Unit: Public Library Section

Project title: IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Guidelines-Revising/e-book

start 2007
end 2010
people involved: John Lake, Barbara Gubbin and Christie Koontz
PC funds: €3.150,00
other funds: none
comments: Proposed list of tasks, which assume a 16 month timeframe starting November 2008, ending February 2010: Assessment of current guidelines & proposed revisions, Identification / agreement of needed revisions by chapter, First draft review by committee members, Final edited version for review, Publication process

The original publication of 2001
Professional Unit | Library Services for Children and Young Adults
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Project title | Revision Guidelines Library Services for young adults

**start** 2007

**end** 2010

**people involved** Ingrid Bon, Chair, S. Libraries for children and young adults

**PC funds** € 600,00

**other funds** none

**comments** Follow up:

- Call for translations; as part of Strategic Plan 2009
- Contact with YALSA from ALA on possible presentation in 2009 or 2010
- Italian translation is work in progress
- Dutch translation is work in progress

**description** The Guidelines are revised in a 2 year project. In 2007 the text has been revised and the English version has been published. The 2nd year of the project was for translation into French, Spanish and Russian and publication of those languages.
Professional Unit  Library Services to Multicultural Communities

Project title  Multicultural Communities: Guidelines for Library Services

description  The Section embarked on the large task of creating revised Guidelines for Library Services. The previous guidelines were over 10 years old and there was a need to completely rewrite the document to reflect the new realities of multiculturalism, technology and the many other changes that have occurred within libraries in the past decade.

background  Once finished, the guidelines will be published on the IFLA website. The Section intends to have them translated into a number of languages. The Section is also discussing publication of the Guidelines in hard copy format to ensure access to regions where electronic distribution is not always possible.

start  2008
end  2009
people involved  Robert Pestell (chair of working group), Mijin Kim, Susy Tas tesen and Ann-Katrin Ursberg
PC funds  € 700,00
other funds  none
comments  The Guidelines will be promoted extensively on international List-Servs, IFLA website, at IFLA congress and other library conferences, and in journal articles. A definitive promotional plan will be discussed at the Section’s mid-year meeting in Osaka (2009).
Professional Unit  Division 4-Bibliographic Control

Project title  Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR) Working Group

description  The FRSAR group members have had several meetings through emails, conference calls, and face-to-face meetings since 2007.

background  more on FRSAR can be found at: http://archive.ifla.org/VII/s29/wgres.htm

start  2007
end  2009

people involved  Chair: Marcia Zeng; working group members: Leda Bultrini, Lois Mai Cahn, Gerhard Riesthuis, Diane Vizine-Goetz, Ekaterina Zaytseva; advisory group members: Dorothy McGarry, Ed O’Neill, Paivi Pekkarinen, David Miller, Hemalate Iyer, Jonathan Furner, Victoria Francu

PC funds  € 3,000,00

other funds  none

results  User tasks were defined and revised and a new conceptual model was proposed.

comments  FRSAR group had a draft final report ready for review by the members of the FRSAR Working and Advisory Groups by January 2009. A revised version was distributed for worldwide review in Spring 2009. Based on the experience of FRAD, we expect to have the second round of worldwide review during or after the IFLA 2009 congress.
Professional Unit  Division 4-Bibliographic Control

Project title  IME ICC (IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code)

description  This project served to review and replace the 1961 Paris principles with cataloguing principles for today’s environment.

start  2003

end  2009 (with publication)

people involved  For the 5 regional meetings worldwide invitations went out to 344 rule makers and cataloging experts and country representatives from 129 countries in Europe, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, the Arabic-speaking Middle East, Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the 4 Anglo-American countries (Australia, Canada, United Kingdom, and the United States) represented by the Joint Steering Committee for AACR (later called Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA).

PC funds  € 3,000.00


results  International agreement on a Statement of International Cataloguing Principles and its accompanying Glossary of terms and agreement on a resolution to incorporate the principles into future cataloging codes. To be published in June 2009 as nr. 37 of IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control.

comments  The meetings provided a wonderful opportunity to get the cataloging experts from the regional countries together, most of them meeting for the first time, to get to know each other and to discuss together the basic principles of cataloguing in today’s environment.

A small group of participants of the IME ICC
Professional Unit  Bibliography Section

Project title  Guidelines for National Bibliographies in the Digital Era

description  Publication of a set of principles that should offer guidance and help to national bibliographic agencies in the digital era.

background  The Working Group officially launched its work in 2004. It had as its goal to produce guidelines that can be used to plan and design national bibliographies that will meet users’ needs in the digital era. This includes national bibliographies that will be functional for the electronic environment and that will offer guidance on what content to include in national bibliographies. The guidelines will also be instructional for those national bibliographic agencies that are just beginning to create national bibliographies.

start  2004
end  2008
people involved
PC funds  € 2,000,00
other funds  none

results  The final form of the Guidelines, with probably a new title of National Bibliographies in the Digital Age, will have the following table of contents: History and Background (Hansen), Value of National Bibliographies: Use and Uses (Zumer), Selection Principles (Wiggins), Cataloguing (Danskin), Functionality and Interface (Zumer), Organisation and Management of National Bibliographies (Clavel-Merrin, Danskin, Knutsen, Parent, Varniene), Cooperation with Publishers (Cato, Haapamaki), Glossary (Stoklasova), Bibliography (Stoklasova)

comments  To be published in June 2009 as nr.39 of the IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control
Professional Unit  Statistics and Evaluation Section

Project title  Global Statistics

description  This is a project for a three-year collaborative programme between IFLA Section on Evaluation and Statistics, UNESCO Institute of Statistics and ISO committee TC46/SC8 (Information and documentation: Quality: statistics and performance measurement) to review the 1970 Unesco recommendations on library statistics; advise on the adoption of measures facilitating the demonstration of impact and outcome; advise on appropriate measures to reflect the use of electronic information sources; advise on the use of appropriate non-library demographic and socio-economic measures; advise on the construction of appropriate indicators using the recommended statistics; and advise on additional and supplementary avenues to strengthen the collection of data.

start  2007

end  2009

people involved  Michael Heaney (Project Leader); Roswitha Poll (liaison with ISO); Pierre Meunier (Montreal contact); Simon Ellis (UNESCO Institute for Statistics)

PC funds  2007: € 2,475,  2008: € 8,268

other funds  UNESCO Institute for statistics: Help in kind, ca. EUR25,000. Concordia University: Conference expenses supported CDN$17,630; grants from various Canadian bodies CDN$26,000

results  IFLA Publications 138 Global statistics for the 21st century world. We are now making plans for capacity building and rolling out the questionnaire in different parts of the world.

Cynthia Lisée presents her analysis of the results of the questionnaire at the Montreal conference.
Professional Unit  Audiovisual and Multimedia Section

Project title  CCAAA UNESCO World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

description  Sound recordings and moving images in any form are vulnerable, and easily discarded or destroyed. Too much of the world’s 20th century audiovisual heritage is now lost, and much more is deliberately slipping beyond recovery because of neglect, natural decay and technological obsolescence. Unless public awareness of the importance of preservation is increased, this trend will continue. AVMS have been working for some years within CCAAA towards the UNESCO declaration of an annual World Day for Audiovisual Heritage. This Project allowed AVMS participation in the planning of appropriate events and publications, and in particular the sponsorship of a one-day International Expert Meeting on “Audiovisual Material and Heritage”, in Zagreb, Croatia on 26th October 2007 (the first year of the celebration), and a Workshop entitled “Libraries and the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage”, in Mo I Rana, Norway on 15th October 2008.

start  mei-07
end  oct-08

people involved  Bruce Royan (Project Head, and Speaker), Ms Marwa el Sahn (Speaker), Gregory Miura (Speaker), Sanja Vukasović-Rogač (Zagreb organiser), Trond Valberg (Mo i Rana organiser)

PC funds  € 3.000,00

other funds  Zagreb City Libraries and the National Library of Norway each made substantial (but unquantified) contributions to the costs of the events they hosted.


comments  The Project Head took the opportunity while in Mo i Rana, of visiting the famous rock-hewn storage vaults of the National Library of Norway, and wrote an extended description of them for the AVMS Newsletter, entitled “In the Hall of the Mountain Kings”
description  IFLA and the Education and Training Section have been concerned with equivalency and reciprocity of LIS Qualifications for years, but this problem still has not been resolved and it is lacking a uniform basis of assessing equivalent degrees internationally. This project wanted to explore the feasibility of developing Guidelines for the quality of LIS education programs that will provide a basis for establishing procedures for determining the equivalency of degrees granted and the reciprocity for recognition of job qualifications from the wide variety of LIS program contexts and cultures that exist internationally. The specific objective was to develop and test the feasibility of guidelines that will assist employers and LIS education programs to assess the equivalency of earned degrees and certificates internationally and establish criteria for establishing reciprocity in assigning placement in educational programs and employment.

results  The various current methods of assessing quality of LIS programs and competencies of LIS professionals have been analyzed. Based on the review of the literature dealing with Equivalency and Reciprocity of LIS Qualifications, all the suggested procedures and codes of practice directed to three objectives: improve transparency of programmes and qualifications, stimulate cooperation and mutual recognition, experience international cooperation and professional networks. While the first and second classes of objectives are related to relationship between countries, the third one refers to internationalisation and quality assurance experiences. A questionnaire has been developed and a Focus group has been organised in Zadar (Croatia), with the following purpose: • To determine acceptable criteria and procedures for establishing equivalency and reciprocity of LIS Professional Qualifications, • To determine best measures of quality assurance of LIS educational programs in the judgement of LIS professionals and LIS faculty worldwide. Most of the participants in the IFLA survey in Europe (73%), US (50%), and Asia (50%) would like IFLA to assume an active role in stimulating member associations in their country on this issue. A Quality model should be established by IFLA to achieve transparency and facilitate recognition of quality programs of study.

comments  Most of the participants in the IFLA survey in Europe (73%), US (50%), and Asia (50%) would like IFLA to assume an active role in stimulating member associations in their country on this issue. A Quality model should be established by IFLA to achieve transparency and facilitate recognition of quality programs of study.
description  The aim of the toolkit is to provide a marketing strategy to promote information literacy and set of samples on how to use the logo. The project is a follow up on the investment of the international logo contest organized by the Information Literacy Section (InfoLit) of IFLA with financial support of UNESCO.

background  The strategy to promote the adoption and use of the logo will be with a toolkit available on electronic format. The first part was to release the logo after it was selected at www.infolitglobal.info. The site is undergoing a redesign to include the toolkit and the International Information Literacy State-of-the Art Report. The Logo is already a downloadable version in different formats.