

To: Sjoerd Koopman, IFLA Professional Programmes Director

From: Lorie Roy, Convener, IFLA SIG on Indigenous Matters

RE: IFLA SIG meeting at 2010 IFLA World Library and Information Congress

Date: 9 November 2010

The IFLA SIG on Indigenous Matters held an open business meeting at the 2010 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden. The meeting was held from 16:00 to 18:00 on Friday, 13 August 2010, with approximately 40 people in attendance. The Agenda included:

- Annual Highlights
- Update: Work of IFLA SIG Task Forces
- Discussion/Q&A:

Annual Highlights

The Annual Highlights is an annual review of major, noteworthy events that have taken place over the previous year concerning indigenous library services.

We noted **new and major book awards** arising from international communities that recognize indigenous authors. These include the 2010-2011 First Nations Communities Read Program (Canada) selected title, the 2010 Ngā Kupu Ora Māori Book Awards (New Zealand Aotearoa), and the 2010 American Indian Youth Literature Award (<http://www.ailanet.org/>) awarded by the American Indian Library Association (USA).

We highlighted **selected website and digitization efforts**. These were the new Talk Story Website (<http://www.talkstorytogether.org>) resulting from a collaboration between American Indian Library Association and Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association. This site provides storytime ideas, tips for families, tips for libraries, and book lists. The Indigenous Portal (<http://iportal.usask.ca/>) continues to add useful content.

We recognized **library events organized for indigenous peoples**. Ethiopia Reads celebrates the opening of the new Segenat Children and Youth Library, Mekelle, Tigray Region, Ethiopia. Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library, Arizona, USA organized a reading program with incentives and a solar oven demonstration on the Gila River Reservation for the Akmiel O'otham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) community members. St. Stephens Indian School/ High School Library, Wyoming, USA hosted a Safety Fair in the library featuring a 'Alive at 25' driving class, a mock car crash, and information on hunting safety, safe parenting, and Internet safety. On 15 April 2010, Operation Teen Book Drop, delivered a new book to 10,000 teenagers attending schools on Native reservations and Tribal Lands across the USA. This event was coordinated by Readergirlz, the Young Adult Library Services Association, GuysLitWire, and a new partner, If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything, a national reading club for Native children.

We mentioned **work in classification, policies, and guidelines**. The Library of Congress announced a new Law Classification schedule on *Law and Sociology of the Indigenous Peoples in the Americas* (Classes KIA-KIP: North America). In July 2010 Member states of WIPO drafted a 'legal instrument' for 'traditional cultural expressions.'

<http://keionline.org/sites/default/files/WIPOexpertTCEtext4instrument.pdf>. A Task Force of the American Library Association drafted a document, **Librarianship and Traditional Cultural Expressions:**

[Nurturing Understanding and Respect \(http://wo.ala.org/tce/\)](http://wo.ala.org/tce/). A new ALA Presidential Task Force on Traditional Cultural Expression is considering new a new document for ALA and expects to report to ALA Council on their progress at the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego.

We acknowledged **gatherings of indigenous librarians** that took place over the past year and others that are forthcoming. In the USA, the 2009 national Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums conference took place in Portland, Oregon on October 2009. Te Ropu Whakahau (Maori in Libraries and Information Management) met for their hui-a-tau or annual gathering at Onuku marae on the South Island of New Zealand Aotearoa in March 2010. The annual Tribal College Librarians Professional Development Institute took place in Bozeman, Montana, USA in June 2010. The 7th International Indigenous Librarians Forum will occur from 4-7 April 2011. Hosted with the Sami Parliament in Karasjok, Norway, the theme of the forum is "Indigenous Wisdom and Communication." Six meetings of staff working at tribal museums, libraries, and archives will take place in Wisconsin, USA from 2010 through 2013. The Alaska (USA) Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums will hold a 2011 summit on services for tribal library staff, steps toward developing a strategic plan, Web site and workshops.

Finally, we congratulated the launch of a new scholarship program for indigenous students through San Jose State University, CA, USA. "Circle of Learning" will support 17 American Indian/Alaskan Native students with financial support, mentoring, career advice, field experiences, and interactions with leaders.

Update: Work of IFLA SIG Task Forces

The audience at the 2009 Business Meeting of the IFLA SIG called on the establishment of five Task Forces. These task forces were formed and members of indigenous communities were appointed. The charges and rosters for the task forces are available on the IFLA Sig Website (<http://www.ifla.org/en/indigenous-matters/taskforces-members>). In addition, the audience called on the formation of a new Task Force for 2010-2011 concerning indigenous genealogy.

Task Force: Outreach to Indigenous Librarians Worldwide

The Task Force has created a thorough and interesting outreach plan that is available on the IFLA SIG Website at: <http://www.ifla.org/files/indigenous-matters/publications/action-plan.pdf>

Task Force: Protocols

The Protocols Task Force has provided content on the IFLA SIG website (<http://www.ifla.org/en/indigenous-matters>) with links to key protocol documents including those from Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network (ATSILIRN), Alaska Native Knowledge Network, American Library Association, Maatutua Declaration, and the Society for American Archivists.

Task Force: Developmental Issues/Key Questions

The Developmental Issues Task Force has created a key document that starts with a discussion of definitions for Indigenous peoples, based on the decision that "The task force recommends a broad and inclusive understanding of the term reflecting the approach of the United Nations."

The Task Force also provides fourteen recommendations to:

1. Establish trust; build relationships
2. Invite/include indigenous patrons
3. Promote Reading and information literacy
4. Support performance arts
5. Teach, conduct research, and support publishing
6. Support studies of indigenous peoples through library acquisitions
7. Collaborate and consult
8. Coordinate and serve as liaisons
9. Recruit; train; educate
10. Encourage/assist publishing
11. Prepare websites
12. Develop a directory of contacts
13. Prepare guides and indexes
14. Organize workshops for non-Indigenous staff

Task Force: Indigenous Languages

Work for 2010-2011 will advance supporting indigenous languages.

Task Force: Review of IFLA Documents

The Task Force to Review IFLA Documents will also make progress in 2010-2011.

- Discussion/Q&A:

The audience contributed to a discussion on potential **Indigenous knowledge core elements** in the IFLA Guidelines for Professional Library/Information. The IFLA SIG supports this activity and stands at the ready to contribute to discussion and learn from the process.

Continuing

The IFLA SIG on Indigenous Matters appreciates the support of the IFLA Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section. We will continue our important work which involves the development of a new IFLA Publication, **“Library Services to Indigenous Populations: Protocols and Case Studies.”**