



**Information Technology Section  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2018-2019**

<b>Objective 1</b>	
ITS will investigate, evaluate, and communicate knowledge and practical advice about ICT innovations that have or could become significant potential for library services in present or in future, but which have not been widely adopted for different reasons.	
<b>Projects/Activities</b>	<b>Progress</b>
1. Publish the WLIC 2014 IT Section's sessions papers on Cloud Computing in the IFLA Series.	On hold. Editor reported that there has been little progress as the publication needed more content, and will consider either continuing with the project or to close it.
2. Produce a series of webinars on IT related topics	Delayed till Fall 2019. The production of webinars had been delayed due to technical problems.
3. WLIC 2019 Satellite meeting on <i>Robotics in Libraries: challenge or opportunity?</i> August 20-21, Berlin, Germany	Completed. Some 40 participants from 15 countries attended the satellite. The program included a mix of general, technical and case study papers as well as demonstrations of humanoid robots at the event and in the TUAS Library.
4. WLIC 2019 Satellite meeting with Big Data SIG on <i>Data Intelligence in libraries; the actual and artificial perspectives</i> , August 22-23, Frankfurt, Germany	Completed. The conference was a 1,5 day meeting and 15 papers were in the program. The conference was divided into 5 sessions with different themes: On library collections as data (including aspects of digital humanities) On data analysis and visualization On data skills and services On linking and sharing data On open data and data repositories
5. WLIC 2019 Joint main session on <i>Data Mining and Artificial Intelligence to transform knowledge management and information services in libraries and information organizations</i> with Knowledge Management Section.	Completed. The session was successful with a full room. The short introduction to the general topics and to the main issues connected to them, made by the chair of the session, was a good way to let people deal with a difficult theme and to follow the presentations. It's a model that could be reproduced in other events. Machine learning and discoveries seems to be appreciated, should continue.

6. WLIC 2019 Joint post conference in Rome with Library Theory and Research on <i>Transforming LIS education for professionals in a global information world: digital inclusion, social inclusion and lifelong learning</i> . August 30-31, Rome, Italy	Completed. The IT Section SC was not able to be represented.
7. WLIC 2019 Open Session on <i>Emerging Technologies for Libraries: Smart Cities and Blockchain</i>	Completed. The session was successful with about 70% of seats filled in one of the largest rooms. The round table panel format is more appealing for difficult topics than a sage-on-stage. The IT-SC representative also acknowledged the travel support from IFLA for the guest speaker who made a very positive impression at the session.
8. WLIC 2019 Joint satellite meeting with Subject Analysis and Access, Cataloguing and Bibliography on <i>Metadata specialists in the machine age</i> . August 22, Thessaloniki, Greece	Completed. Some 70 persons participated in the joint satellite. The set up was presentations for 45 minutes and then discussions/workshops around defined questions: On the automation of subject analysis and access. Foundations, requirements, steps towards implementation” “Automagic data” Relationship between libraries and publishers. What does it mean to be a librarian in the digital age? Example of data.bnf.fr”
9. Publish on Robotics in Libraries in the IFLA Series	In progress.
<b>Risks</b>	
<i>Identify any problems or concerns (e.g. missed deadlines, lack of resource) and how you would propose to address them.</i>	
<b>Output</b>	<b>Impact</b>
All satellites and sessions successfully delivered on the theme of the event, and helped spread information on latest developments.	We assume that participants gained deeper understanding of the topic that impacts the profession, and take away ideas that can be implemented on return.
<b>Communications</b>	
Articles were uploaded to the IFLA Library; postings made to the related mailing lists; speakers were also contacted to submit articles to the IT Section newsletter. <a href="https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/information-technology/newsletters/tilt-june_july-2019.pdf">https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/information-technology/newsletters/tilt-june_july-2019.pdf</a>	

<b>Objective 2</b>	
<p>2. ITS will identify and promote standards, guidelines and best practices for the management of information and ICT resources, and improve efficiency and service level of library operations, and interoperability between library systems and between library services and other information services. This includes issues such as metadata and data structures, data manipulation techniques and long-term availability of electronic information.</p> <p>ITS will promote open standards for document preservation, interchange and discovery</p> <p>ITS will work as a consultation body for IFLA projects, activities and section programs and will encourage and support projects within the scope of the strategic plan by maintaining close contacts with other IFLA sections and Core Activities, as well as with other international and national associations and organizations focused on ICT</p>	
<b>Projects/Activities</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Investigate the use of blockchain in the IFLA voucher payment system for international interlibrary requests together with the Document Delivery & Resource Sharing Section.	In progress. The pilot study has been moved to the Document Delivery & Resource Sharing Section.
Draft a set of guidelines or principles for libraries on cybersecurity	Near completion. A draft is being reviewed.
Technical standards recommendations on data	In progress. Discussions to be held with Big Data SIG.
<b>Risks</b>	
<i>Identify any problems or concerns (e.g. missed deadlines, lack of resource) and how you would propose to address them.</i>	
<b>Output</b>	<b>Impact</b>
Projects still in progress.	To be described after project completion.
<b>Communications</b>	
Projects still in progress.	

<b>Objective 3</b>	
<p>ITS will investigate, evaluate, and communicate knowledge about applicable ICT for access to information resources, to promote best practices and with special attention paid to enhancing access to resources in developing countries, for users with special</p>	
<b>Projects/Activities</b>	<b>Progress</b>
WLIC 2019 Participate in open session organized by Division III on services for refugees.	Cancelled
<b>Risks</b>	
<i>Identify any problems or concerns (e.g. missed deadlines, lack of resource) and how you would propose to address them.</i>	

Output	Impact
<i>Please state what the output of your project/activity was (e.g. Report, Standard, Workshop etc) and provide a URL to it.</i>	<i>Describe what difference the project or activity has made to the Unit, IFLA members, the wider profession or society at large.</i>
Communications	
<i>Describe how the output and outcomes of the project/activity have been communicated to the Unit, IFLA members and the wider profession.</i>	

**Professional Unit meetings or conference calls**

Please show how the Standing Committee has conducted its business over the year.

<b>Date</b> <i>When the meeting was held</i>	<b>Location or type of meeting</b> <i>Physical or virtual meeting (telephone, skype etc)</i>	<b>Main outcomes</b> <i>Briefly summarize the main outcomes of the meeting and how these were communicated to the membership of the Professional Unit</i>
1. Various	Primarily BaseCamp and emails.	Discussions and decisions taken.
2.		