



**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION
ANNUAL REPORT
2017**

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Objectives <i>Identified in the Units Action Plan</i>	Project or activity <i>Identified in the Units Action Plan</i>	Progress <i>Please give brief details, including status (not started, in progress, near completion, completed)</i>	Risks <i>Please identify any problems or concerns (e.g. missed deadlines, lack of resource) and how you would propose to address them</i>
1. 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.	1.1. Arrange a joint session at WLIC 2017 with GLHS on "The Challenge of Multiple Identities. Multi-ethnicity in Genealogy, Local History and Regional Memory"	Completed	

	1.2 Mid-Term conference, IT & News Media Section in Iceland, April 27-28 2017	<p>The conference touched key areas in news, media and information technology like;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discourse around new developments in media, - dramatic changes in news and media environment brought by technology and social media, - developments in innovations that deliver these rich and accessible online media resources. <p>Report published in TILT newsletter, July 2017</p>
2. Develop, promote, and communicate technologies, services, and new developments in digital library services and standards to relevant communities within IFLA.	2.1 Arrange a Joint main session at WLIC 2017 with Division III & NPSIG on “Disruptions in Library Services: Addressing Challenges, Finding Solutions”	Completed
	2.2 Arrange a joint session at WLIC 2017 with Reference & Information Services Section (RISS), on “Innovation and the User Experience: Evaluating & Implementing Discovery Systems”	Completed
	2.3 Arrange an Open Discussion Session by the Linked Data SIG	<p>The session attracted about 60 people. Lars Svensson gave an extensive presentation in which “Linked Data & Libraries” was interpreted for beginners and with which advanced people could get their knowledge up to date. The participants were then divided into four groups for the exchange of knowledge and experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Linked Data for beginners ii. Linked Data and the Bibliographic Transition

- iii. Using and reusing Linked Data
- iv. Linked / Big / Open Data: the big picture

The discussion was lively and provided a number of topics that the SIG could address in the future. For example: showcases of real implementations, commercial use of Linked Data, developing of software that can deal with Linked Data, measurement of results, Linked Data & Digital Humanities.

2.4 Arrange a joint satellite at WLIC 2017 together with The Genealogy and Local History Section and Asia and Oceania called “New Insights at the Intersection of Genealogy and Other Professional Communities - Including Librarians, Archivists, Historians, Demographers, Linguists, Anthropologists and Geneticists”

Completed

3. ITS will investigate, evaluate, and communicate knowledge about applicable ICT for access to information resources, with special attention to enhancing access to resources in developing countries and for users with special accessibility needs.

<p>4. 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>4.1 Arrange a joint session at WLIC 2017 with National Libraries Section on “A memory bank for the digital society: national libraries & web archiving”.</p>	<p>Web archiving methodologies have progressed from simple archiving to more detailed content and genre analysis and enhanced discovery and UI presentation of archive contents. The program was divided into two parts: Access strategies explored issues of Web archive collection development, deposit legislation and methodologies for content analysis for specific genre classification based on content harvested. The second session presented two examples of national web archiving: Slovenia and Australia. These two presentations demonstrated the continuous evolution in the practice of web archiving and the enhancements over time to improve content capture and UI presentation. The session was well attended and a successful joint project.</p>
	<p>4.2 Arrange a joint session at WLIC 2017 with Library Theory & Research Section (LTRS) on “Data Curator’s Roles and Responsibilities: International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives”.</p>	<p>The conference keynote was by Reinhard Altenhöner at the Berlin State Library who set the tone of the conversation around the role of data curators. Four presentations around the general topic of the role of data curators and ending the day with four case studies of data curation services. The keynote on the second day was by Sarah Shreeves at the University of Miami who dove into the complexities of navigating the IT organization and how it connects with Data Curation and Preservation.</p>
	<p>4.3 Arrangement by the Big Data SIG of an Text and data</p>	<p>The workshop was conceived to impart knowledge to delegates to equip them with the basic skills to do elementary text mining</p>

Mining (TDM) workshop for Data Discovery and Analytics.

of unstructured data. This was set in the context of the long-tail of scholarly data to possess the following Big Data characteristics: high in Volume and Variety, low in Velocity and Veracity, and largely unknown in Value. The application of TDM tools and techniques would demonstrate how the Value of such scholarly data could be unlocked to enable researchers to study the academic society from a big data perspective, through access to scholarly resources beyond using the traditional read-only techniques.

Although informative, the workshop did not create sufficient opportunities for delegates to interact with basic web mining tools and techniques. The conference venue was also not configured adequately for a classroom setup, nor optimally connected to the Internet to facilitate a hands-on session. It is suggested that such a session is revisited in greater depth at a future IFLA event, within the setting of suitable classroom facility and with more time available.

5. 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.		
6. ITS will identify and collaborate with other agencies to promote best practices for the inclusion of the voices of women, disadvantaged communities, and ableness, in relation to the development, creation and maintenance of information and IT resources.	6.1 Arrange a joint main session at WLIC 2017 with Women, Information & Libraries SIG on “Women, Open Technology, & Culture”.	<p>Approximately 30 attendees. This session was held in an unconference style with attendees given the opportunity to identify topics of discussion, vote on them, and engage in discussion within the time of the session. Topics discussed included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How we, as employers, can attract and retain women in technology roles 2. Education about body/self and the memory of the internet 3. How can we support women in social media spaces? 4. Empowering/encouraging/welcoming immigrant women with technology and make the library a space they feel they want to/are able to enter. 5. Wikipedia and the absence of women in Wikipedia both in articles and as editors 6. How to be inclusive of homeless women and girls 7. Supporting vulnerable populations
7. “Business as usual”	7.1 Minutes, annual report and action plan	Completed
	7.2 Newsletter	One issue of Trends & Issues in Library Technology
	7.3 Maintaining website	Completed
	7.4 Membership recruitment	Completed

Results

<i>Completed project or activity</i>	Output
1. Meeting Minutes	Minutes from WLIC 2017 https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/information-technology/minutes/minutesmeeting_wlic2017pdf.pdf
2. Newsletter	Trends & Issues in Library Technology (TILT). July 2017 https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/information-technology/newsletters/tilt_2017jul.pdf