



IFLA Knowledge Management Standing Committee (SC) Meetings
Helsinki, Finland
KM I: August 11, 2012, Saturday, 15:15-17:15
KM II: August 14, 2012, Tuesday, 8:00-9:30

[The following notes combine the discussions from the first and second SC meetings.]

List of Attendees:

Standing Committee members:

Agnes Hajdu Barat - I, II
Stuart Basefsky - I, II
Theo J. D. Bothma - I, II
Leda Bultrini - I, II
Judith J. Field - I, II
Elisabeth Freyre - I, II
Olga Lavrik - I, II
Christel Mahnke - I, II
Sally McCallum - I, II
Xuemao (Shimo) Wang - I, II
Susmita Chakraborty (corresponding) - II

Standing Committee member sending regrets: Lois Mai Chan, Jane Dysart, Vianou Francois Godonou, K.C. Sahoo, Karolien Selhorst, Steffen Wawra, Zhigiang Zhang.

Guests:

Dalia ElKony - I
Elin Gerge - I
Muke Nkondo - I
Lamia Badra - I
Cindy Hill - I
Bill Fisher - I
Eva Semertzaki - I, II
Mike Koenig - I, II
Anna Vratna - I
LeMalle El Hassan - I
Victoria Khumalo - I
Giuseppe Vitiello - I, II
Segametsi Molawa - I, II
Winnie Mangotlo - I
Neil Nel - II
Kristi Touminen - II
Yuan-Ho Huang - II
Amani Magid - II
Heng Chen - II
Goella Karuumombe - II
Dagmar Groothuis - II

Jakob Mulera - II
Abraham Azubuike - II

I - Saturday meeting
II - Tuesday meeting

Chair's report

Both meetings were opened by Xuemao (Shimo) Wang, the chair, who welcomed all to the meeting. New and current members were introduced. Xuemao invited visitors to also participate. Xuemao reported that the year had been spent preparing for the satellite and open session meetings in Helsinki and that these would be reported later in the meeting.

Strategic Plan activities

KM is on target with the activities related to the IFLA Goals and associated Priority Activities in the IFLA Strategic Plan for 2010-2015. In 2011 three activities were identified for the Knowledge Management Standing Committee that supported the Goals and associated Priority Activities of the IFLA Strategic Plan for 2010-2015:

- *Plan and carry out programs for the IFLA Annual Conferences and involve other IFLA units*
- *Encourage a diversity of gender, nationality, languages, and professional backgrounds in the KM section membership*
- *Gather, evaluate and exchange KM information relevant to librarians by using the features of the IFLA website to build an internationally recognized resource site*

KM has had a very successful year of program planning. In Puerto Rico, the Standing Committee sponsored one Open Session and cosponsored three joint sessions. The joint sessions were with the Parliamentary libraries, Law libraries, Government libraries, and Government information sections, and with ICADS. The Standing Committee also took on the challenge of sponsoring a Satellite meeting in Helsinki, which took place on the Friday before the Helsinki conference began. The KM Open Session in Puerto Rico had treated KM initiatives in the Americas, so the Satellite meeting for Helsinki expanded the theme to KM on other continents. For its Open Session in Helsinki, KM in public libraries is the theme. Another joint session with Parliamentary libraries, a Knowledge Cafe, is also being held.

While the membership of the Standing Committee could not be changed this last year, KM has continued to welcome all interested participants to its Standing Committee meetings, which contributed to a great diversity of participants in Puerto Rico. For the Satellite, Open Sessions, and joint sessions in Puerto Rico and Helsinki KM has drawn in a widely diverse group by including speakers from West Indies, France, Chile, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, Taiwan, Greece, Italy, Germany, Finland, UK, and the USA.

The KM resource website has been the more difficult activity for progress this last year. A grant for funding was sent to the IFLA Board in late 2011 but funds were not awarded. A new strategy has been formulated to use a combination of the Standing Committee administration funds and information school graduate students to build the site.

Secretary report

KM Budget

Sally McCallum reported on the KM budget for 2012. KM was allocated 400 Euro and as of August 1 there were 400 Euros in the SC account at IFLA Headquarters. Proposed expenditures for the funds are up to 100 Euros for photocopying and other meeting support activities in Helsinki, and 300 Euros for help in developing a KM resource web site. These expenditure plans were approved.

Minutes

The minutes from the San Juan meetings were approved. They are posted on the KM web site.

Membership

The Section membership stands at 69. The Standing Committee currently has 17 regular members and 3 corresponding members. 6 members will complete their service on the committee in 2013 (Barat, Mahnke, Chan, Field, Freyre, Bothma). In the last months of 2012, IFLA headquarters will solicit nominations for vacancies on the Standing Committee from IFLA institutions that are members of the KM Section. If a current member's 1st term expires in 2013 (Basefsky, Bultrini, Lavik, Sahoo, Selhorst), they are eligible for nomination for a 2nd term. It is expected that there may be as many as 9 places to be filled on the Standing Committee.

Members were reminded that joining the Standing Committee was a commitment to attend the meetings for the duration of their term (4 years). If members miss two meetings they are automatically removed from the committee roster. Terms for current members are noted on the SC membership list on the SC web site.

SC activities since the San Juan Conference

Newsletter

Christel Mahnke reported that two issues of the newsletter had been distributed since San Juan, No. 13 in January 2012 and No. 14 in June 2012. The January newsletter contained descriptions of the many programs that KM sponsored or co-sponsored in Puerto Rico. The June issue listed the activities for the upcoming Helsinki conference and included interviews with keynote speakers from the Open Session (Claudia Lux) and from the Satellite meeting (Anja Flicker). Both issues have been posted on the KM IFLA web site.

Christel Mahnke alerted the SC members that she completes her term on the SC next summer so would like for someone to help with the newsletter this next year in preparation for taking on the editing the following year.

Social networking tools

Christel Mahnke reported that the KM social sites continued to attract sporadic attention. She reported that the Section LinkedIn has 303 members but was not active enough. She encouraged SC members to participate. The Facebook site only has 33 members and appears to be marginally useful. Members should contact Christel to make arrangements to blog.

KM Information Resource Center

Christel Mahnke and Elisabeth Freyre reported that an application for a grant to develop the KM resource center on the web site had been turned down by the Professional Committee. Xuemao Wang proposed that a student gather the material for the site and the Administration funds be

used for that (see above). This effort will work well with the repository that IFLA is planning to build for IFLA documents and resources. The KM Resource Center site can point to the KM papers in the repository and to other papers outside of IFLA as needed.

The plans for the Resource Center are still focused on helping people new to KM become oriented. The information on the site would be the practical side of KM and analyses of what KM is. It would not try to be comprehensive but rather a first stop-type site for people interested in KM -- a starting point, with links to other in depth sites.

KM Brochure

Copies of the KM brochure were brought to the meeting by Xuemao Wang and passed out at the KM Open Session.

Helsinki meeting reports

Helsinki Satellite meeting

The SC sponsored a satellite meeting on Friday, August 10 on "Knowledge Management Theory in Action: how to plan, apply, and assess knowledge management in Libraries". It was attended by 30 participants from many different countries. There were two excellent tutorials on KM, by Michael Koenig (a founding member of the KM section) and Anja Flicker, and 5 papers on applications of KM principles in work situations. There were good exchanges of ideas after the papers and during a "round table" at the end. The meeting coffee and lunches were supported by ExLibris. The Goethe Institute provided excellent meeting space. The Helsinki Kallio library staff invited the participants to a lovely reception at the library after the meeting. (Kallio library is celebrating 100 years this year.) The Satellite meeting was planned by Leda Bultrini with a committee of Agnes Hajdu Barat, Christel Mahnke, Xuemao Wang, Jane Dysart, and Lois Chan.

Helsinki Open Session

The SC sponsored one papers program during the conference, Wednesday, August 15. The program on "Potential of Knowledge Management in Public Libraries" was very successful with over 300 attendees. The keynote was Claudia Lux, former IFLA president. The papers are available on the IFLA web site. The Program Development Committee for this session was chaired by Agnes Hajdu Barat, and included Olga Lavrik, and Elisabeth Freyre.

Helsinki KM cafe

The SC was a co-sponsor of a session joint with Library and Research Services for Parliaments called a "KM Cafe" on Monday, August 13. It was composed of a set of 9 "chair circles" where discussion took place. Each circle had a different topic and facilitator, and participants changed circles three times to join discussions of different topics. Jane Dysart was the KM liaison for this program, but was not able to attend the conference. Christel Mahnke and Giuseppe Vitiello were facilitators for café topics. The café was an interesting variation of the usual papers programs and good discussions were reported.

Singapore planning

KM Open Session in Singapore

As a guide for possible topics: the general theme for Singapore is "Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities." The current IFLA president's theme is "Libraries -- A Force for Change".

Speakers? The SC discussed the method for obtaining speakers. It was decided that a combination of inviting a couple of speakers and making a call for the rest might work best. It was noted that sometimes speakers resulting from a call for speakers are not been able to attend the conference. Stuart Basefsky and Christel Mahnke have a contact from the area that may be a good keynote and Michael Koenig may also identify a good speaker from the technical college in Singapore. The Bank of Malaysia is holding a conference on KM in October and an Asian KM group is meeting in November. Perhaps a speaker might be identified from their agendas -- Christel may attend one of those conferences.

Knowledge cafe? There was discussion of combining the Open Session with a KM café. Perhaps 3 speakers and two cafe sessions? There was concern about how tables would be introduced halfway through the program, especially with perhaps 400 in the audience.

Joint sponsorship? If the Section wanted joint sponsorship, teaming up with Parliamentary, Continuing Education, or Asia and Oceania sections was suggested. If the Open Session were a joint one then KM might have two time slots (3-4 hours).

Themes? Several ideas for themes were discussed:

- KM without borders
- Asian approaches to KM
- How to stimulate and support innovation?
- How can different cultures build KM teams?

The Conference Program Development Committee will be developed by the program chair, Agnes Hajdu Barat and several members and visitors to the meeting volunteered.

KM Satellite meeting discussion for Singapore

Holding a satellite meeting in Singapore was discussed. Although KM had not submitted a proposal in March, perhaps they could go in with another group. Christel Mahnke suggested that the Goethe Institute might again be able to host the meeting. It was pointed out that a satellite meeting is primarily for locals as others often cannot come early for IFLA. Having enough time to plan is important as the organization is a lot of hard work for the program chair. Since there was not an application for Singapore the consensus was to wait and perhaps hold one in the next venue (Lyon, France).

Other Business

Xuemao Wang said that he will again be holding monthly Skype calls with the new KM leaders group (officers, committee chairs) over the year to move the programs and projects along.

KM Dinner

The SC continued its tradition of a group dinner at Kappeli Restaurant in Helsinki. It was attended by over 20 SC members, spouses, visitors to the SC meetings, and speakers from the

satellite meeting and open session. It was a great opportunity to visit with colleagues in an informal setting.

Xuemao Wang and Sally McCallum pointed out that their terms as officers would be ending after the Singapore conference. Members of the SC should consider whether they are able to take on the tasks of chair and secretary.

Sally McCallum
Secretary, Section on Knowledge Management
18 October 2012