**Scope:** The general objective of the Section is to encourage activities related to access to information and knowledge. The Section gives priority to promotion of literacy, promotion of reading, and application of new technologies, as well as to the services of libraries and information centres in the region. The Section maintains close relationships of mutual support and exchange with all the professional groups of IFLA, acting as intermediaries for those groups when they develop activities and projects for the region, and especially with the ALP Strategic Programme.

**Members:** The LAC Section currently counts 19 standing committee members and 2 corresponding members. The following nations are represented: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

Members of the LAC SC for 2013-2015:

- Victor Aguirre Negro (Uruguay)
- Silvia Cecilia Anselmi (Argentina)
- Margarita Bellas Vilariño (Cuba)
- Angela Maria Monteiro Bettencourt (Brazil)
- Octavio Castillo Sánchez (Panama)
- Marisela Castro Moreno (Mexico)
- Sueli Mara Soares Pinto Ferreira (Brasil)
- Olinda Estela Gómez Moran (El Salvador)
- Elmelinda Lara (Trinidad and Tobago)
- Jesús Lau (Mexico)
- Bárbara Lazo Rodríguez (Cuba)
- Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico)
- Amada Marcos Blásquez (Spain)
- Belén Martínez González (Spain)
Alejandra Martínez del Prado (Mexico) has resigned.

**Officers:** Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Brazil) served as President and Silvia Cecilia Anselmi (Argentina) served as Secretary and Information Coordinator /Web editor.

More information at: [http://www.ifla.org/lac/standing-committee](http://www.ifla.org/lac/standing-committee)

**Standing committee meetings:**
On March 26 and 27 in São Paulo, Brazil we celebrated our midterm SC meeting. At IFLA WLIC Lyon 2014: Latin America and the Caribbean Standing Committee were 17 August 2014 13:45 -15:45 and 20 August 2014, 08:00 - 09:30.
Minutes of meetings are available at: [http://www.ifla.org/lac/minutes](http://www.ifla.org/lac/minutes)
Buenos Aires, Argentina will be held the place for our midterm SC meeting in April 2015.

**Membership:** The section had 103 registered members.

**Latin America and the Caribbean activities at IFLA World Library and Information Congress: 80th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 16-22 August 2014, Lyon, France:** LAC Section president participated in the following sessions: Officers Training Session; Caucus: Africa, Asia & Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean; Caucus Portuguese Speaking Participants; Caucus Spanish Speaking Participants; Division V Leadership Brief; Latin America and the Caribbean Standing Committee I (17 August 2014 13:45 -15:45); Latin America and the Caribbean Standing Committee II (20 August 2014 08:00 - 09:30)

Our Open Session (Conference session 99) was dedicated to "Knowledge, information and citizens: the social value of libraries / Conocimiento, información y ciudadanía: el valor social de las bibliotecas / Connaissance, information et citoyenneté: la valeur sociale des bibliothèques" on August 18 with speakers from Brazil, Colombia and Argentina:
• Digital Inclusion Program AcessaSP and the development of digital literacies among elderly population: a case study / Brasilina Passarelli (Library and Information Science Department – CBD School of Communication and Arts – ECA University of Sao Paulo - USP, Brazil)
• Biblioteca, escuela y cultura escrita, una alternativa de inclusión social / Nidia Mazo Toro (Programa Palabrarío y Numerario de la Fundación Corona y Génesis Foundation, Bogota, Colombia)
• Revistas de Acceso Abierto y opiniones de los evaluadores de carrera docente investigador en Argentina, Brasil y México / Paola Bongiovani (Facultad de Humanidades y Artes. Universidad Nacional
de Rosario, Rosario, Argentina) and Nancy Gómez (Grupo TECNODOC, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain) and Nora Moscoloni (Universidad Nacional de Rosario, IRICE-CONICET, Rosario, Argentina)

• Sección América Latina y el Caribe de la IFLA: celebrando 40 años de historia (1974-2014) / Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Universidad Federal da Fronteira Sul-UFFS, Chapecó - SC, Brazil) and Silvia Cecilia Anselmi (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Papers are available on the IFLA Library.

In the IFLA Express at WLIC Lyon 2014 an article entitled “IFLA Latin American and the Caribbean Section: 40 years!” by Silvia Cecilia Anselmi was published on 20 August. The text is a shortly review about the history of LAC section, http://conference.ifla.org/past-wlic/2014/ifla80/node/641.html

At IFLA WLIC Lyon 2014 closing ceremony, Dr Jesus Lau, IFLA LAC SC member, was recognized by IFLA Medal 2014 for his distinguished contribution to IFLA and international librarianship, particularly in advancing information literacy as a critical skill.

**Satellite meeting 2014:** A proposal was successful submitted to host a satellite meeting at the IFLA WLIC 2014 Lyon. Musée archéologique départemental de Saint Romain en Gal-Vienne has agreed to host the satellite meeting at its institution on August 14. The meeting theme was dedicated to "Bibliotecas fuertes para una sociedad fuerte en América Latina y el Caribe - Strong libraries, Strong societies in Latin America and the Caribbean – Des bibliothèques fortes pour des sociétés fortes en l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes". This event was cancelled.

**IFLA LAC 40th Anniversary Activities:**

On March 28th, 2014, FEBAB and the University of São Paulo (Information Science Department of the Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences and Letters of Ribeirão Preto and supported by the Integrated Library System) commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions – IFLA LAC, with the seminar "Tradition and Innovation Cooperation: New Frontiers of access" which aims to discuss recent trends in management, availability, quality and use of information on investigations carried out in the area of science, seeking to bring together researchers, managers of educational and research institutions, representatives of funding agencies, evaluators, librarians, ICT specialists and decision makers in different areas.

Also the Round Table “Tradition and associative collaboration towards the insertion of Latin America in the new frontiers of access” was held and a session of tributes to IFLA LAC members served in last 40 years.

Two other events was take place in São Paulo, Brazil, in the week preceding the said seminar, they are:

- Workshop "Strengthening Library Associations" attending to BSLA Program (Building Strong Library Associations) coordinated by IFLA sponsored by the Melinda Gates Foundation and oriented to managers, class library institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean. It was from March 24th to 27th with Library Associations chairs from: Bolivia, Brazil, El Salvador, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay and Uruguay. Each association will continue working in different projects.
- IFLA LAC midterm SC meeting, from March 26 to 27. We planned, evaluated and gave continuity to the actions proposed by the IFLA LAC Section for and prepare the agenda of the next SC meeting of the section and the Open Section concerning Latin America and the Caribbean at IFLA Conference, both taking place next August. Also SC has prepared and accepted a new action plan for 2014-2015. A Publications work group was created.

**Trainings:**
Workshops "Libraries in the digital world", as part of the workshop program of application of digital tools for the development of library services was organized by The Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports of Spain, through the General Library Coordination convened in collaboration with IFLA LAC. A new edition was hold from 21 to 25 April 2014 in Montevideo, Uruguay.
Workshop “Library in the pocket: information and reading on mobile devices” took place from 16 to 20 June, in Managua, Nicaragua with professionals from Cuba, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panamá.

1769 librarians and information professionals participated of a new series of free webinars presented in November 2014, in Portuguese and Spanish by LAC Section with Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CPDWL) and the New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG) in partnership with the School of Information, Documentation and Library Sciences of the Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences and Literature of the University of São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto Campus (USP) in Brazil. The series of seven sessions included two sessions in Spanish and three sessions in Portuguese about “Copyright and Libraries: why it is important to stay informed” and one session in each language about the trends identified on the IFLA Trend Report and how these impact information professionals, libraries and library services.
Videos and presentations from the 2014 Webinar Series for Latin America and the Caribbean are available at: [http://blogs.ifla.org/lac/webinars/](http://blogs.ifla.org/lac/webinars/)

At IFLA World Library and Information Congress, 81st IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 15-21 August 2015, Cape Town, South Africa, under congress theme: "Dynamic Libraries: Access, Development and Transformation", Latin America and the Caribbean Section invites interested professionals to participate to submit proposals for the open session entitled: “Libraries in Latin America and the Caribbean: agents of social transformation and development / Bibliotecas en América Latina y Caribe: agentes de transformación y desarrollo de la sociedad / Bibliothèques en Amérique latine et les Caraïbes : des agents de la transformation et de développement de la société".

**Finances:** IFLA LAC has not applied for administration funds in 2015.

**Communication and diffusion:**
Our section contributes to disseminate the Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development. Also encouraged to sign it between LAC countries.

IFLA LAC collaborated with translations of IFLA documents into Spanish.
Last issue of the Section Newsletter was published in electronic format (number 64, jan.-jun. 2014), available at: http://www.ifla.org/publications/latin-americaand-the-caribbean-section-newsletter
Publication is ceased.

The LAC Section maintains close contact with other IFLA Sections, Special Activities and Strategic Programmes, to integrate LAC into IFLA and the libraries and information world and libraries associations in the LAC region.

The LAC Section continues to work on social media:
http://www.facebook.com/IFLALAC
http://www.twitter.com/iflalac
http://www.pinterest.com/iflalac

The blog has been updated monthly: http://blogs.ifla.org/lac

And to inform activities of IFLA and IFLA LAC on: http://www.ifla.org/lac and e-mail list: http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/ifla-lac

Report submitted by:
Silvia Cecilia Anselmi - Secretary and Information Coordinator /Web editor
Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra - Chair

December 2014.
Credits photos: copyright Silvia Cecilia Anselmi.
ACTION PLAN 2014

Key Initiative 1 - Digital Content Programme: driving access to content, and digital resources, for library use

Objective 1.1 Work in training in the digital environment and e-learning.
   Project 1.1.1 Planning an online course on digital collections management.

Objective 1.2. Take advantage of mobile technologies for access and promotion of library services.
   Project 1.2.1. In-person workshop to training instructors to mobile technology and library services. COMPLETED

Key Initiative 2 – IFLA International Leaders Programme: capacity building to raise the voice of the profession nationally, regionally and internationally

Objective 2.1 Support the BSLA Program monitoring the initiatives proposed at the São Paulo workshop (Brazil, 2014) participating.
   Project 2.1.1 Know the projects presented by the associations participants in the workshop.
   Project 2.1.2 Collaborate with the diffusion and implementation of such projects.

Key Initiative 3 - Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Library and Information sector: connecting, collaborating, representing strategically

Objective 3.1 Establish online training strategies according the standards of each country within the IFLA perspective.
   Project 3.1.1 Webinar Program: Copyrights for librarians to LAC. COMPLETED

Objective 3.2 Propose to the LIS Institutions and Schools a socioeconomic analysis of libraries.
   Project 3.2.1 Develop model study based on the FESABID paper.

Objective 3.3 Promote and encourage communication of actions in the LAC region.
   Project 3.3.1 Define the communication policy and a publishing program.

Objective 3.4 To promote relations and information exchange with associations.
   Project 3.4.1 Update LAC associations directory.

Key Initiative 4 - Cultural Heritage Disaster Reconstruction Programme: Culture is a basic need, a community thrives through its cultural heritage, it dies without it

Objective 4.1 Raise awareness among countries on the importance of the Blue Shield Program.
   Project 4.1.1 Know the initiatives being carried out in different countries.
   Project 4.1.2 Disseminate Blue Shield Program.