IFLA Standing Committee on Law Libraries. Minutes of Meeting.

Göteborg, Sweden, Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Present: Claire Germain; Franck Hurinville; Blair Kauffman; Holger Knudsen (Chair); Pedro Padilla; Radu Popa; Donna Scheeder; Jules Winterton.

Absent: Richard Danner; Angeline Djampou; Rubens Medina; Martin Vorberg

1. Welcome

Holger Knudsen, Chair, welcomed the new and continuing Standing Committee members, and noted the absence of four members. He also recognized IFLA attendees who came to the meeting as observers. A sheet was sent around for them to fill out with their information.

2. Approval of Agenda, Last Minute Changes

The agenda was approved.

3. Report on the Activities of the Past Year

Chair Holger Knudsen, mentioned the successful session on Italian law and research delivered at the 2009 Milan meeting, followed by a lively question and answer part. He mentioned that the Law Libraries Section had grown this year to 46 members.

He then reported on the Leadership Forum. Because of some unhappiness following the switch from Brisbane, Australia, to Göteborg, Sweden, IFLA is reorganizing its schedule of conferences with a seven year cycle plan, one region after another. There are also now new standards for satellite meetings, which must have a link to the conference and not become competing events.

Donna Scheeder mentioned that the local library association will be asked first if it wants to hold a conference, to indicate interest in supporting the world conference.

Holger mentioned the upcoming elections in October 2010.

4. Report from the Information Coordinator

Franck Hurinville, Information Officer, mentioned the complete new redesign of the general IFLA website and asked for content for the newsletter.
5. **Report from the Treasurer**

Donna Scheeder, Treasurer, reported that the Law Libraries Section receives $360 per calendar year (January through December), based on the number of section members. The money will be used during the Göteborg meeting to pay for the day registration of one speaker, and for gifts for the speakers.

6. **Report of the secretary**

Claire Germain, Secretary, reported that the major activities were the preparation and organization of two programs co-sponsored with other sections.

7. **Events in Göteborg 2010**

The Section is sponsoring two programs and one reception.

a. Section program (co-sponsored with two other sections: “Creating an International Legal Information Policy Agenda.” 7 speakers, followed by roundtable discussions and reports. Blair Kauffman, Program Chair, explained the novel concept of “lighting speeches.” Radu Popa brought a timer and Blair challenged the 7 speakers to raise issues in 5 minutes each, and then chair round table discussions, 30-40 minutes per discussion group.

http://www.ifla.org/en/conferences-session-day/2010-08-12

b. Program co-sponsored with four other sections: “Librarians in Action: Human Rights and Information Policy.” Claire Germain is to introduce the program, followed by Ayodeji Fadugba on Sustaining the Legacy of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, Reggie Raju on the South Africa Truth and Reconciliation Records, and Jerry Mansfield on the U.S. 9/11 Commission. The Argentine speaker on the Commission on Disappeared persons was unable to come.


A reception is to be held at the University of Göteborg, organized by Swedish colleague Anna Isaacsson, with the help of Catarina Carlsson.

8. **Events in Puerto Rico 2011**

Holger proposed two programs, one on the legal status of Puerto Rico, and the other a workshop on the book commissioned by IALL on international legal information management. Donna Scheeder expressed the thought that it would be up to the Section to move things along after the “Creating an Information Policy Agenda” session, and do a follow up program on some of the issues that would emerge as priorities. She cautioned that it was better not to explore too many issues at one time.

Blair Kauffman stated that he saw two goals for the Section: 1. To educate members, in a way similar to IALL courses; and 2. To think of policy issues at the international level and advance the agenda of the section. He further stated that the Section did not want to miss the opportunity to have an effect on
policy setting. Donna emphasized that IFLA was the trusted global voice on information policy issues, and that it was appropriate to identify issues for advocacy.

9. Planning for Helsinki

Holger mentioned that this would be done next year after the elections.

10. Other Business

Strategic Plan. Holger said that our Section was the only one which did not have a Plan and that we needed one. He asked the Secretary if she could work with a small group to come up with a Draft Strategic Plan. Blair Kauffman, Frank Hurinville, and Radu Popa volunteered to work on it. Donna mentioned that the IFLA Strategic Plan was much simplified. The Governing Board has identified priority activities that are measurable, e.g., “done or not.” She suggested that our Section identify two or three things that we want to accomplish. E.g., what is our policy agenda? We have done work, we only need to write it down. Donna complimented the Section on the format of the upcoming Roundtable.

Listserv Update. IFLA-L

Newsletter. Last year, Franck had presented a template for the newsletter, but no issue came out during the year. Franck said that he needed content to do the newsletter. The SC members agreed to publish one issue in October 2010, with a “from the Chair” part, a report (compte-rendu) of the 2010 Goteborg meeting by Pedro Padilla; a summary of the outcome of the Agenda roundtable discussions, and pictures.

The Chair thanked the attendees for their participation, and closed the SC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire M. Germain
Secretary, Law Libraries Section