IFLA Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations

Midyear Meeting

Minutes

Thursday 11 March 9.00-18.00 and Friday 12 March 9.00-13.00 2004
Charring Cross Library, London

Chair: Jane Dreisig
Attendees: Ann Katrin Ursberg (Sweden), Christine McDonald (USA), Clara M. Chu (USA), Domenico Ciccarello (Italy), Haiyang Kang (United Kingdom), Jane Dreisig (Denmark), Kirsten Leth Nielsen (Norway), Lourina K. de Voogd (Netherlands), Souad Hubert (France), Susy Tastesen (Denmark)

Apologies: Ekaterina Nikonorova (Russia), Yasuko Hirata (Japan), Robert Pestell (Australia), Jane Pyper (Canada), Carmen Madrid (Spain), Kristina Virtanen (Finland), Benedikte Kragh-Schwarz (Denmark)

No response: Morris Mbasa (South Africa), Ana Asensio Rodriques (Spain)

Reporter: Kirsten Leth Nielsen
Date: 15.04.2004

Agenda:
1. Welcome, Apologies
2. Introduction and Practical Information
3. Minutes of the SC meetings I and II in Berlin
4. Chair’s Report
5. Secretary’s Report
6. Treasurer’s Report
7. IFLA Buenos Aires, Argentina from August 22nd to 27th, 2004
8. Pre Conference Stockholm 2005
9. IFLA Oslo, August 14-18, 2005
10. IFLA Seoul 2006
12. Definition of “Multicultural”
13. Multicultural Librarianship-International Resource
14. Presentations of the Guidelines in Italian
15. Training Programme for Library Staff on Multicultural Themes
16. IFLA New Structure and Organization / Status
17. Study Group for developing a Handbook for Library Services for Multicultural Populations
18. National Libraries and Cultural Diversity
19. Information and Communication Matters / Procedures and Strategy
   - Section Newsletter
   - Section Website – Status
   - Section Archives / Status
20. Recruiting new members
21. Election 2005 of Chair and Secretary
22. AOB

1. Welcome, Apologies
Jane Dreisig opened the meeting by thanking the committee members for attending the London meeting and expressing her gratitude that so many members have been able to attend.

2. Introduction and Practical Information
Jane Dreisig welcomed the new member of the committee: Ann Katrin Ursberg.

3. Minutes of the SC meetings I and II in Berlin
   Minutes I was approved with two minor corrections. Item Attendees: The letter D ahead of Clara is a misspelling. Ann Katrin Ursberg did not attend the meeting. Item Agenda, point 5: Misspelling in Jane’s name: correct name is Dreisig. Item 8: remove the extra 0 in 2005.

   Minutes II was also approved with minor corrections: Item Attendees: Correct name: Burgers van den Bogaert. Ann Katrin Ursberg did not attend the meeting. Item 3 D: Second sentence: Correct sentence is: Domenico ..... have an appendix with national and international practices. Item 8B: correct name: Ann-Katrin Ursberg. Item 11: Add the name Clara Chu since she is also in charge of this document.

4. Chair’s Report
Kirsten Leth Nielsen is accepted as a member of the committee since one of the committee members Barbro Ejendal has resigned. Kirsten is replacing her. Kirsten will continue as secretary of the committee for the period 2004-2005. The chair gave a brief account of the election procedure in IFLA. She stressed that it is urgent that all members send their apologies if not able to attend the two official meetings at the main IFLA conference. If not you may lose your membership in the committee.

5. Secretary’s Report
The 2003/2004 work schedule was reviewed with a few comments: Item 9: We still do not know when the listserv will be moved. Christine will ask Barbara von Wahlde. Item 11: We still have had no response from Tarik Sedn. Susy will contact Christin Sauer - she might be able to help us getting the permission from Tarik. Item 16: We have not received the Russian version of the leaflet. Clara will send a reminder to Ekaterina.

6. Treasurer’s Report
700 EUR at the bank account. We have not yet received the administration money for 2004. We are asking for 325 EUR.

7. IFLA Buenos Aires, Argentina from August 22nd to 27th, 2004
Christine reviewed the program for the Buenos Aires session. We have a very interesting and impressive 6 hours scheduled programme including speakers form all over the world. The session will be followed by a visit to The Library of the Ethnographic Museum. We have been very lucky to be granted a 6 hours session. We can thank Christine, Carmen and Clara for that! The title of the session: “From the Global village to the Indigenous Village: The role of the Library in Preserving the Cultural Identity of the Indigenous People”. Christine will send a draft of the scheduled program as soon as possible to Jane Dreisig. She will also send information of equipment needs to Jane Dreisig. Jane Dreisig will ask for simultaneous interpretation at the CB meeting in Amsterdam the following weekend. It is a goal to have the programme issued in the spring issue of the newsletter.

We briefly discussed terminology: Shall we use the word aboriginal or indigenous? We did not reach a conclusion in this issue.

Kirsten informed the committee that she had heard rumours of a post conference in Oslo in 2005 with the theme indigenous people. She will investigate this matter carefully and report to the committee.

8. Pre Conference Stockholm 2005
Ann Katrin Ursberg distributed a paper summarizing issues related to the Stockholm conference and gave a brief survey of the status for the conference by now. It was decided to change the title to: “The Multicultural
Library. Staff competence for Success” to avoid misunderstandings and to emphasize the focus of the conference. Ann suggested a keynote speaker on the theme “Language rights”. We all agreed. Several people were suggested as speakers at the conference. All members of the committee will send names of relevant lecturers to Ann. Clara accepted to be moderator for the conference.

9. IFLA Oslo, August 14-18, 2005
We decided to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the section on site and not as previous decided in one of Oslo Public Library branch libraries. We will apply for a 3 or 4 hour session in the afternoon (16:00-19:00) on site, hoping that Headquarters will consent to this since we are celebrating a jubilee. The title of the celebration session will be: The Multicultural Bazaar. Swap and shop session and celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations. We are expecting app. 100 attendees and will apply for a room without chairs (no auditorium). The draft programme is: 1. A brief summary of the history of the section by Benedikte Kragh-Schwarz or Marie Zielinska. 2. Visions (new models) for multicultural library services by Kirsten Leth Nielsen. The remaining time will be spent eating good food, reflecting the multicultural theme and having a drink. Parallel to this, people will come and go, exchanging “best practice”, pamphlets, brochures etc. We have to apply for funding to pay the expenses for food and drink. We will apply for funding in Denmark (Jane Dreisig), in Sweden (Ann Katrin Ursberg) and in Norway (Kirsten Leth Nielsen).
Kirsten will make a draft press release and send it to Clara for correction. Jane and Robert are asked to design a poster for promoting the section. We also need a proper motive for bags or t-shirts. Susy will see to this. Domenico will prepare a power point presentation of the section. Jane Dreisig will send the Celebrating 20 Years pamphlet to him. We will announce the celebration in the next newsletter issue. Christine will send the web address for the “Swap and shop” concept to Kirsten.

10. IFLA Seoul 2006
We discussed the email from Yasuko without reaching a conclusion. Yasuko states that our theme is too broad and that we will have to be more clear about what we want focus on. The discussion will continue at our meeting in BA.

We now have a very nice manuscript of the handbook due to the good work of Donna and Barbara. Still - we will have to use a bigger font to make the publication readable for all kinds of people. Jane Dreisig will contact Donna in this matter. Susy will publish the handbook in 200 copies. If it is not possible for Susy to do the job, Lourina will do it. Robert is asked to tell Headquarters to highlight the handbook on the IFLAnet and in IFLA express. Jane Dreisig will ask Robert to send information about the handbook on the listserv as soon as possible.

12. Definition of “Multicultural”
We had a very interesting discussion about the theme submitted in the draft report form Clara. First of all we discussed the content of the report and agreed to make some corrections. Some of the conclusions were: We do not include different social groups in our target group, and not deaf people. Secondly, we started a new discussion about the two terms cross cultural and inter cultural. Clara will sum up the discussion and submit a revised report. She will publish it on the listserv no later than 15 April. Clara will also publish the website “Thinking Multiculturally” on the listserv.

13. Multicultural Librarianship-International Resource
Clara informed us that her faculty is developing a new website with the theme Multicultural library services: International List of Multicultural Professional Library Association Groups and Activities Website. http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/chu/mcprof/. The website is not published yet, but will be presented at the committee meeting in BA.

14. Presentations of the Guidelines in Italian
Domenico gave a brief summary of the content of and the work with the new Italian guidelines.

15. Training Programme for Library Staff on Multicultural Themes
We still have not developed a programme and the committee decided to postpone the task. It was suggested that we make a report after the Stockholm conference and that the theme will also be on the agenda in Oslo 2005

16. IFLA New Structure and Organization / Status
Jane Dreisig emphasised that the key question in this issue is whether or not the section should join an
other section. The ideal situation will be that multicultural library services is embedded in all public library services. Unfortunately it is not so today. Clara and Christine volunteered to make a list of arguments underlining the importance of multicultural library services and relate the arguments to the works of the section.

17. Study Group for developing a Handbook for Library Services for Multicultural Populations
The item will be on the agenda in Oslo 2005. We will discuss the issue when discussing the results of the Stockholm preconference.

18. National Libraries and Cultural Diversity
On behalf of Ton van Vlimmeren Lourina promoted the Bertelsmann report on the theme “Cultural Diversity”. The web address to the report: www.public-libraries.net. Lourina will make sure that the report is announced in the next newsletter and on the listserv.

Lourina volunteered to formulate a draft letter to the National Library division urging the division to discuss the role of the national libraries in terms of library services to multicultural populations. The letter will be on the agenda in BA.

19. Information and Communication Matters / Procedures and Strategy
Update list of members
The list of members of the committee was circulated and corrected. Jane Dreisig will distribute the revised list on the listserv as soon as possible.

Leaflet:
The leaflet is translated into French and Italian and will be published on the listserv.
Archives:
Jane Dreisig will ask Benedikte (her library) to pay the expenses for freight. If that is not possible, the section will do it.
Section Newsletter:
Spring: before April 15
Summer: Theme: about the conference
Website:
Permission from conference speakers in Aahus and Buffalo are still missing. Clara will send what is available from the Buffalo conference.
Mailing-list
Jane Dreisig will ask Robert to update the list.

20. Recruiting new members
Important information to all members of the committee: Be aware of the next nomination deadline. If you need a renomination, your papers for renomination must be at IFLA Headquarters before 1 February 2005. It is of special interest that Jane Pyper becomes a member of the committee since she is editor of the Sections newsletter. Jane Dreisig is responsible for nominating Jane Pyper. Other current members whose term will be over in 2005: Clara M. Chu, Robert Pestell, Susy Tastesen, Lourina K. de Voogd, Ekaterina Nikonorova, Kirsten Leth Nielsen.

21. Election 2005 of Chair and Secretary
We all have to consider good candidates for the two offices!

22. AOB
No items

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