LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Terry Weech, chair of the standing committee of LTR

Dear Library Theory and Research Section Members:

I note that this will be my last message to the membership as Chair of the Section. Working with Section members over the past four years has been a great pleasure. I especially appreciate the way many of you stepped in to work on projects and programs and to help other colleagues out when needed. I believe we have accomplished much in the Section. Helen Partridge, our Secretary for the past four years was able to keep up with her duties even though her schedule did not enable her to attend every IFLA Conference. With the help of Marydee Ojala, Heidi Kristin Olsen, and others who substituted for Helen as Secretary when she was not able to be in attendance, we were able to meet our obligations to maintain a record of Standing Committee meetings. Helen was conscientious in completing the reports required by IFLA in a timely manner as well as acting as the primary project director of our successful mentoring project (“Researcher-Librarian: a research mentoring scheme for new professionals”) which was completed in 2012.

Also thanks to Raphaelle Bats and her student group at Ensib who reestablished the LTR newsletter and to Eileen Breen who assisted us as our web liaison, during my tenure as Chair. Also thanks to Anna Maria Tammaro as Chair of Division IV this past year who was most helpful in keeping us informed of IFLA HQ communications and other matters. Marydee Ojala, who served as Secretary in the past and contributed much to the Section during her eight years of serving on the Standing Committee, will be leaving the Standing Committee this year. Her loyalty and dedication to the Section is much appreciated.

And thanks to Krystyna Matusiak and Peter Lor, and Lynn Silipigni Connaway who worked on the revisions of our Strategic Plan and on many other Section related activities. I could go down the list of the members of the Standing Committee, listing nearly every member as having made important contributions, but for the sake of keeping this message of manageable size, I will stop here, acknowledging that there are many more who deserve thanks that go unnamed at this time. I will
continue as a member of the LTR Standing Committee for two more years, and I look forward to working with the new officers who will be elected at our 17 August meeting in Singapore and with the continuing and new members of the Standing Committee.

I hope you are able to join the Section in Singapore, 17-22 August, 2013. Our Library Theory and Research program Session 101 — Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation — 19 August 2013 09:30 - 12:45; Room 5.

Our Standing Committee meetings in Singapore are open to all, and members of the Section are especially welcomed. You are invited to attend as observers at our meetings on Saturday, 17 August, from 12:30 – 15:00, Room 324, and Tuesday, 20 August, from 13:15 - 14:45, Room 310, Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre. Please let me know if you have questions. My email is weech(at)illinois.edu

WE’RE ON TWITTER!
Mathilde Dumaine, Enssib student

Our Twitter is seen by 191 followers and we track 232 followers. This account aims to distribute information linked to the LTR section of IFLA. It can be call for papers, conferences or any events regarding Library and Information Science.

Furthermore, we produce a blog that tracks information about book and library history and gives all the highlights of information on the topic through our Diigo on Twitter.

If you are interested in library and information science, don’t hesitate to follow and share any data with us!
OPEN SESSION 2013
Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation

The open session of the LTR’s section will be held the 19 August 2013 09:30 - 12:45 | Session Room 324/325. You can find below the abstracts of each communication presented this summer.

Abstract 1: Developing a Model Integral Impact Assessment - Pablo Andrade Blanco - Doctor in Cultural Heritage, developing research lines in heritage and imagery in the information and knowledge society, Chili
The objective of this integral model impact contribution to their local presentation is to show the assessment in the public communities, to show their process of building of a libraries, to show their

Abstract 2: Diversity and Community Engagement at University of Toronto Libraries - Jack Leong - Director, Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library Chair, International and community outreach committee University of Toronto Libraries
This research aims to discuss how University of Toronto Libraries embraces diversity and facilitates multiculturalism for its communities. Canada started to adopt “Multiculturalism” to address issues of ethnic and cultural diversity in 1971. After almost 40 years of implementing this policy, what social effect does it have on the University and its Library? The author will draw on the data from the Ethnic Diversity Survey of Canada (2002) and the 2011 Census conducted by Statistics Canada to investigate the demographic background. Using results of a series of individual interviews and surveys targeting the University’s population and library staff on questions related to diversity in the Library, the author will explore the validity or invalidity of the above-mentioned observation about University of Toronto Library’s effort in encouraging diversity and inclusion.

Abstract 3: Identifying and Implementing Diversity - Ragnhild Kay Brandstedt - Assistant Library Director Mariestads Public Library Drottninggatan, Sweden
This approach entails a first step towards the process of attaining a well-informed team of employees. Other measures that are in various stages of implementation are well-informed choices in media purchasing, marketing strategies and planning culture activities from a broader perspective.

Abstract 4: This intense desire to know the world : Cultural Competency as a Personal and Professional Disposition - Kasey L. Garrison – Lecturer, teacher Librarianship, school of Information Studies in Faculty of Education Charles Sturt University, Australia
Using a conceptual framework combining collection development theory (Edgar, 2003) from the field of library and information science with culturally responsive pedagogy defined by multicultural education scholar Geneva Gay (2002, 2007), this research highlights cultural competency and responsiveness in this sample of U.S. public librarians. Their experiences and reflections support cultural competency
as both a personal disposition involving their own backgrounds, beliefs, and experiences as well as a professional disposition enlisting resources, networking, and training from the library field. The sociological nature of these findings holds implications and infinite possibilities for the future of library education in developing and promoting strong cultural competency for library students and practitioners.

Abstract 5: What we are learning about the diverse backgrounds of academic library users: An overview of research designs and methods in information behavior studies - Krystyna K. Matusiak - Assistant Professor in Library & Information Science Program Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver

The purpose of this paper is to examine the use of different research methodologies, including quantitative, qualitative, and a mixed-method approach, and to investigate the relationship between the research methods and the data gathered about students’ diversity. The paper explores the following research questions: 1.) what types of research design and methods help in gaining insight into diverse backgrounds of academic library users, and 2.) what we are learning about the diversity of users through information behavior studies. In order to address the research questions, the author reviews and analyzes empirical studies of the information behavior of academic library users published in library and information science journals between 2006 and 2012. The paper presents the results of the analysis and relates the use of different research methods to the data gathered about the diverse backgrounds of academic library users.

Abstract 6: Information seeking behaviour of national minorities’ secondary school students for scientific research purposes - Viktoria Moskina - Assistant to the Director of the National Library of Latvia

The case study was made in April, 2012 with the purpose of determining national minority secondary school students’ information seeking behaviour during the scientific research process: what information channels and resources they use and in what language this information is. Carol Collier Kuhlthau’s model of Information Search Process was chosen as a theoretical framework for this study. The study includes the results of six interviews with the schoolchildren who are doing their research on different IT topics and the results of the (standard) questionnaire completed by 119 secondary school students who did their research projects on different topics.

PROJECTS
The IFLA Library Theory and Research Section Study of the Impact of IFLA on Promotion change and Diffusing Professional Norms in Libraries-The Findings

In an effort to bring closure to a 2004-2006 IFLA supported LTR research project, Heidi Kristin Olsen and Terry Weech with the assistance of the original project director, Ragnar Audunson of Oslo, Norway, undertook the task of recovering the papers.
submitted as part of the IFLA LTR project. Some of the papers are in draft form. Some have been published in other venues, but the intention of this effort is to provide a single source where most of the documents submitted in response to the project entitled “AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ROLE OF IFLA IN PROMOTING CHANGE AND DIFFUSING PROFESSIONAL NORMS IN LIBRARIES WITH A WEIGHT ON NORMS; STANDARDS AND POLICIES RELATED TO LIFELONG LITERACY”. The compilation that resulted is now available at:


Comments or questions may be sent to either Heidi Kristin Olsen (heidi.k.olsen@hive.no) and Terry Weech (weech@illinois.edu)

FOCUS ON A STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER

OLSEN, Heidi K., Norway

I am academic librarian at Vestfold University College, a small University College in the southern part of Norway. At VUC we educate nurses, teachers, preschool teachers, engineers, naval officers and social scientists. We have 9 Masters programs, and two programs for PhD-education. VUC is a Center for expertise in Micro and Nano Technology.

I have been working as at VUC since 2003. I have a Master’s degree in ‘Pedagogical texts’ (2008). In my Masters thesis, I studied the faculty staff’s use of electronic resources offered by the library.

Since 2009 I have been participating in a program for qualifying academic librarians. I have had part time off my regular librarian’s duties to conduct development work in the library. I have continued my commitment for library services for researchers, some of this work is documented in the article “Research group librarian - a cooperating partner in research?” in Liber Quarterly last year. I still have a special interest in library services for faculty staff and researchers, and hope to continue to further development of these services.

At the moment I am finishing another article, this time in a book called “Pedagogical texts in practice”, where I am studying how the librarians facilitate its’ physical collections for the users.

Before I started at VUC, I have been working in different types of libraries, as well as in ICT-related positions, since I graduated as a librarian in Oslo in 1983.

This year, I have been offered a new position as a teacher (Assistant professor) at the LIS-education at Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Science. The first term I will primary teach classification and school library subjects. I will start immediately after IFLA in Singapore.
Proposed Agenda for LTR Standing Committee Meeting

Saturday, August 17th 2013, 12:30 – 15:00, Room 324, and Tuesday, August 20th 2013, 13:15 - 14:45, Room 310, The Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre

1. Introduction and welcome
   - Introduction of Officers, Standing Committee members, and observers. Terry Weech, chair
   - Approval of the Agenda for August, 2013 Standing Committee (SC) meetings.
   - Approval of the Minutes from Helsinki, 2012.
   - Election of Chair and Secretary-Treasurer of the Section by continuing members of LTR SC.

2. Officer reports
   - Report from the Chair, Terry Weech
   - Report from the Secretary and Treasurer, Helen Partridge
   - Report from the Information Officer and Webmaster on LTR Newsletter, Website, and related matters (Raphaëlle Bats and Eileen Breen)
   - Report from Division IV Chair, Anna Maria Tammaro

3. Conference Program Planning
   - 2013 Program Planning Committee for Singapore (Raphaëlle Bats and Yasuko Inoue, Co-Chairs)
     Session 101 — Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation — Library Theory and Research 19 August 2013 09:30 - 12:45 | Room: Session Room 5
   - 2014 Program Planning Committee (Raphaëlle Bats and Peter Lor, Proposed Co-Chairs).

4. Projects and publications
   - Report on Professional Norms Project (Heidi Kristin Olsen and Terry Weech)
   - Report on the Research-Librarian Partnership project (Helen Partridge)
   - New project or publication proposals (Please submit draft proposals to T. Weech, Chair weech@illinois.edu no later than August 1, 2012.)

5. LTR Strategic Plan

6. Special Interest Group
   - Report on Library History SIG (Steve Witt)

7. Other Business