

Name of Professional Unit: Library Theory and Research (LTR)

Action Plan 1 outlines activities for a new project led by LTR

Action Plan 2 represents activities for BSLISE, a continuing collaborative project of LTR and SET

Action Plan 1

Focus Area 1			
Improve training of library professionals in research and evaluation methods to engage practitioners in evidence-based practice			
IFLA Strategic Direction			
2. Inspire and Enhance Professional Practice, 2.3 – Develop standards, guidelines, and other materials that foster best professional practice, and 3. Connect and Empower the Field			
Key Initiatives			
2.1	Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession		
3.4	Provide targeted learning and professional development		
Funding Needed	Projects/Activities	Tasks & Responsibility	Timeframe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Conduct an international study investigating library and information science (LIS) education in research methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design a mixed methods study to gather data on the approaches to teaching research methods in (LIS) programs and training library professionals in different countries; the study will include an international survey, content analysis of teaching materials, and interviews with LIS educators and practitioners in multiple countries Collect examples/case studies of best practices in teaching research methods and training library professionals to conduct research and evaluation Collect and analyse data focusing on the LIS programs in Latin America, North America, and Europe during the first year of the study (2019-2020) Collect and analyse data focusing on the LIS programs in Asia, Africa, and Oceania during the second year of the study (2020-2021) and conduct comparative analysis Report the findings from the first the first year of the study during the LTR Satellite conference in Ireland; the Satellite is organized by LTR in collaboration with the <i>IFLA Journal</i> and Social Sciences Section 	<p>LTR group working in collaboration with Education and Training Section (SET) members; The group was formed during the 2019 IFLA Congress; LTR Chair coordinates the work of the group</p>	<p>2019-2021 Two phases of the project: 2019-2020 – research design and collecting data in Europe, Latin America and North America 2020-2021 - collecting data in Asia, Africa, and Oceania;</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report the findings from the second year of the study during the LTR Satellite conference in the Netherlands 		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Provide workshops and webinars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize a two-day workshop on research methods to library professionals in Latin America in 2020; the workshop will be held in conjunction with the regional conference of Latin American librarians in Mexico City in March 2020; organized in collaboration with the Latin America and the Caribbean Section Organize a second workshop on research methods to library professionals in Europe, Asia, or Africa in 2021; the location TBD Provide two webinars on designing research projects and selecting research methodology; in collaboration with Education and Training Section and Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning 	<p>LTR subcommittee coordinated by LTR Secretary</p> <p>LTR/SET/CPDWL subcommittee</p>	<p>2020</p> <p>2021</p> <p>2020-2021</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Generate a report/white paper with guidelines and examples of best practices for teaching research methods in LIS</p>	<p>LTR group working in collaboration with SET members; coordinated by LTR Chair</p>	<p>2021</p>

How will you communicate your activities and results?

- Create a web page describing the project and post updates about the activities, such as regional workshops, IFLA satellites, and webinars
- Summarize the study in the LTR blog and newsletter
- Promote the project and its activities through social media
- Present the findings from the first year of the study during the 2020 LTR Satellite conference, "International Research in LIS: Challenges and Opportunities" organized in collaboration with the *IFLA Journal* and Social Sciences Section
- Present the findings from the second year of the study during the 2021 LTR Satellite conference,
- Publish a white paper and journal articles reporting the findings from the study
- Collaborate with regional library associations and international professional organizations, such as the Association of Library Science Education (ALISE) and the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIST) to promote the webinars and satellite conferences through their listserv

How will you measure the impact of your activities?

- Gather data and stories from the workshops' participants
 - o Develop and request feedback through an evaluation form
- Gather data on the project presentations and publications
 - o Develop and request feedback through an evaluation form after the Satellite conference presentations

Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.

- Education and Training
- Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning
- *IFLA Journal*
- Social Sciences Section

Action Plan 2

Focus Area 2			
Advance the profession through understanding best practices in library and information science (LIS) education.			
IFLA Strategic Direction			
SD 2.3 – Develop standards, guidelines, and other materials that foster best professional practice.			
Key Initiatives			
1	Develop an international resource that identifies local structures		
2	Develop a draft international framework for the assessment of quality standards in LIS education		
3	Identify core and other competencies for transferability and reciprocity		
4	Work collaboratively with the leadership of the BSLISE Working Group to address the recommendations of the BSLISE White Paper (2018). doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.15641/0-7992-2542-6		
Funding Needed	Projects/Activities	Tasks & Responsibility	Timeframe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> note funding is requested e.g. pay student intern for cleaning up of database, etc.	1a) Build on the existing databases of LIS programs worldwide to develop a regularly updated, international database and asset map, capturing information about LIS schools and programs and local structures, organizations, and procedures that address the issues of professional qualifications, accreditation, certification, and registration for professional practice. [Survey and Mapping Project – funding request]	BSLISE Group A	August 2019- July 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>	2a) Engage the IFLA leadership and constituents to address the need for this framework (or related mechanism) and its role in developing and managing this assessment mechanism.	BSLISE Working Group and Group B	August 2019-December 2019

	2b) Develop a draft international framework for the assessment of quality standards in LIS education	BSLISE Working Group	August 2019-July 2020
	3a) Refine core and other competencies for transferability and reciprocity	BSLISE Working Group and BSLISE Group C	August 2019-July 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>	4a) Work with IFLA SET, LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG, other units and IFLA leadership, as appropriate, to address the recommendations of the BSLISE White Paper (2018). doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.15641/0-7992-2542-6	BSLISE Working Group	August 2019-July 2020

How will you communicate your activities and results?

The Building Strong LIS Education (BSLISE) Working Group utilizes email lists (e.g., IFLA-L, JESSE, ALISE, ASIS&T, iSchool, etc.), social media <https://www.facebook.com/bslise> and a website <https://bslise.org/> to communicate activities and achievements to its members, IFLA SET, LTR, the Developing Countries SIG, and the LIS community worldwide. Presentations, publications and webinars will be other forms to communicate the work resulting from these initiatives which are carried out by the BSLISE, of which SET SC members play key roles, as well as LTR and other IFLA members.

How will you measure the impact of your activities?

- Use of the work by LIS professionals, educators, researchers, stakeholders internationally (including local and regional professional associations, higher education institutions, and government higher educational quality assurance bodies);
- its dissemination through presentations, webinars, publications, website, social media among other forms to LIS professionals, educators, stakeholders worldwide in diverse languages; application of the findings and resources by LIS institutions and associations locally and regionally; and
- consideration of a proposed international framework for the assessment of quality standards in LIS education by IFLA leadership.

Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.

LTR, Statistics & Evaluation, Division 5 (Regions), National Libraries and IFLA leadership, LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG