

IFLA ROUND TABLE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

Annual Report
January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001

Scope Statement

Within IFLA, the RTMLA addresses the interests, aspirations and concerns of the library associations represented among IFLA members and library association representatives attending IFLA meetings. There is a continuum of resources available to library associations: some have paid staff and others are run by volunteers, both possessing a wide range of experience and expertise. The Round Table addresses the needs and interests of all types and sizes of library associations.

The RTMLA brings together elected leaders, staff and representatives of these associations to foster and improve leadership skills; share experiences; develop useful publications and to offer workshops, seminars and programs that address their needs and interests; support IFLA's Core Programs; and advocate within IFLA for the promotion and development of effective library and library association practices worldwide.

Membership

The RTMLA Executive Committee has 23 members representing individual library associations, of which five are Corresponding members. There is one association awaiting approval to the Executive Committee. There are 142 individuals subscribed to the RTMLA Listserv, representing 80 different library associations.

Officers

Chair: Christina Stenberg, Sveriges Allmänna Biblioteksforening/Swedish Library Association, Box 3127, 103 62 Stockholm, SWEDEN Phone: 468-545-132-30 FAX: 468-545-132-31 E-mail: chs@biblioteksforeningen.org The RTMLA reelected Christina Stenberg by acclamation serve another two year term from 2001-2003.

Secretary: Arlene Cohen, Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives, University of Guam, RFK Library UOG Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923, USA Phone: +1-671-735-2345 FAX: +1-671-734-6882 E-mail: acohen@uog9.uog.edu The RTMLA reelected Arlene Cohen by acclamation to serve another two year term from 2001-2003.

Treasurer: Roger Parent, American Association of Law Libraries, 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604, USA Phone: +1-312-939-4764 FAX: +1 312 431-1097 E-mail: rparent@aall.org The RTMLA reelected Roger Parent by acclamation serve another two year term from 2001-2003.

Information Coordinator

Duane Webster, Association of Research Libraries 21 Dupont Circle NW, Washington, DC 20036, USA. Phone: +1-202-296-2296 FAX: +1-202-872-0884 E-mail: duane@cni.org continued as Information Coordinator and agreed to continue in this role.

Meetings

There was one RTMLA Executive Committee meeting this year. The 41st meeting of the committee was held in Boston, Massachusetts with 20 Executive Committee members and 26 guests present. The meeting was held on Saturday, August 18 and continued on August 24, 2001, and was highlighted by the vote of the RTMLA to become a Section.

The mid-year meeting planned for St. Petersburg in February 2001 was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Projects

The Library Association Resource Kit project became an effort to publish brochures based on chapters of the UNESCO/RTMLA *Guidelines for the Management of Professional Associations in the Fields of Archives, Library and Information Work*. The first brochure, *Expanding Advocacy in the Library Community: A Guide for Developing Government Relations without Borders* was published in reporting year 1998-1999.

This past year, three new publications were completed and distribution began at the IFLA 2001 Boston Conference. The brochures now available are: *Guidelines for Governing and Leading Library Associations*, written by Roger Parent; *Guidelines for Library Associations Operations*, written Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad; and *Guidelines for Financial Management of Library Associations*, written by Tore Andersen.

Throughout the year, three others have been worked on: *Organizational Structure* by Cecilia Panzer; *Programs and Services* by Leacy O'Brien, and *Policies, Planning and Procedures* by Jennifer Joseph and hopefully, will be published next year. Work on translation into French and Spanish of the four brochures already published was done this year and hopefully, the translations will be published next year, as well.

An *RTMLA Listserv* was established after the IFLA 2001 Boston conference. The listserv is hosted by the Special Libraries Association in Washington, DC, USA and has been very successful. By December 31, 2001, there were 82 different library associations represented on the list of subscribers. There were 141 individuals subscribed to the listserv, most of which represent the 82 library associations listed.

The Swedish Library Association initiated a pilot project. For this reporting year, the participation of officers of the IFLA Round Table for the Management of Library Association who were unable to financially support attendance to meetings was funded by the Swedish Library Association. This initiative spoke to affording people without the financial resources or institutional support the opportunity to take on the duties of elected offices. It is hoped that this is the first of other initiatives to financially support the participation of officers in all Divisions, Sections and Round Tables who are unable to obtain their own funding. Although not an RTMLA project but with the same intent of providing a model for other library associations, the Swedish Library Association also underwrote the membership in IFLA for the Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives for this reporting year.

Twinning/Mentoring Project: Two programs dealing with this project were presented during the IFLA 2001 Boston conference and are discussed under the **Conference Programs** section in this report.

Publications

Guidelines for Governing and Leading Library Associations
Guidelines for Library Associations Operations
Guidelines for Financial Management of Library Associations

RTMLA Brochure, Year 2001 edition was published.

There was no *RTMLA Newsletter* published during this year.

Amenu-Kpodo, Norma.. "Can "twinning" be Applied Effectively to Small Library Associations?" Paper presented at the 67th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Boston, Massachusetts, August 21, 2001. Internet URL:

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/papers/141-137e.pdf>

Kniffel, Leonard. "The Free Press: Editorial Independence in Association Magazines." Paper presented at the 67th IFLA RTMLA joint with Library and Information Science Journals Workshop . Boston, Massachusetts, August 23, 2001. Internet URL: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/papers/166-204e.pdf>

Conference Programs

The RTMLA sponsored an Open Session and two workshops at the 68th IFLA Conference in Boston, Massachusetts

The Open Session, *Library Association Twining*, was held on Tuesday, August 21, 2001. The three presenters, Norma Amenu-Kpodo, Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth Library Association; Louisa Vigo Cepeda, University of Puerto Rico; and William Gordon, Executive Director of the American Library Association, discussed their experience with twining activities. The sign-in sheet indicated that 63 people attended, however, IFLA reported that mid-session, there were 75 people in the conference room.

One of the workshops, *Twinning for Development: A Workshop Where We Discuss Different Models for a Twinning Programme between Library Associations* was held on Thursday, August 23, 2001. There were three speakers, Kari Gulbraar, Vice-President of the Norwegian Library Association; Enoch Chipunsa, President of the Zimbabwe Library Association; and Bo Markusson, Chair of the Special Interest Group of the Swedish Library Association on Africa, Asia and Latin America. There were 29 people attending the session. After the speakers presented their various perspectives of their twinning experiences, the audience had a lively discussion about twinning.

During both of the above sessions, the new RTMLA *Guidelines* brochures were available for distribution and by the end of the workshop, all 250 copies had been given out.

The second workshop was jointly presented with the Round Table of Editors of Library Journals. The workshop, *The Free Press: Editorial Independence in Association Magazines* was held on Thursday, August 23, 2001. Leonard Kniffel, the Editor of the American Library Association's *American Libraries* spoke to a group of 34 people, representing 26 library journals.

Relationships with other Bodies

During this past year, the RTMLA worked with the *Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals* to develop a workshop for the IFLA 2001 Boston.

We also began working with the *Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania* to plan a joint workshop for the IFLA 2001 Glasgow conference. We continue to work with *Advancement of Librarianship Program (ALP)* to develop joint programs and identify funding resources.

During this past year, the Chair visited the Soros office in Budapest and had some input in their *Soros Open Society Institute Network Library Program (NPL) 2000* Initiative planning process.

Other Events

For the past several years, a change in our status from *Round Table* to *Section* has been discussed within the RTMLA. In response to a letter from Ross Shimmon dated May 10, 2001 to officers of all IFLA Round Tables and Discussion Groups discussing the future of IFLA's professional units, a letter was written and approved by the RTMLA Executive Committee. In the letter dated August 24, 2001, the RTMLA stated we wished to pursue becoming a section with several recommendations. At the December 2001 meeting of the

IFLA Professional Committee, they voted to change the status of the RTMLA to a Section.

After approving our change in status, the IFLA Professional Committee then forwarded one of our recommendations to the Governing Board. This recommendation was that a change in section membership options offered to associations be considered. We recommended that associations would be given cost-free membership in 6 sections instead of 5, with membership in the Section on Library Associations being automatic. This recommendation was not approved by the Executive Committee.

The RTMLA received a request from Ashah Owano and Isabel F. Mulanda, librarians from Kenya, to fund their research project, *The Impact of Library Associations in the Development of Education and Training in East Africa* in the last reporting year. The project was funded at US \$2,000 and is still ongoing.

The RTMLA was invited to attend the *8th Crimea 2001 Conference* in June 2001 in Sudak, Ukraine. Tore Andersen from the RTMLA and Mogens Damm from the Danish Library Association held a joint RTMLA/FAIFE workshop covering many topics. On behalf of the RTMLA, Tore Anderson presented a session on "Library Associations: Establishing Finances, Structure and Pleasure." The workshop was funded in part by the RTMLA, Soros and other sources. The RTMLA has again been invited to the next *9th Crimea 2002 Conference* and will look at funding issues and our participation for this next conference.

Author

Arlene Cohen, RTMLA Secretary
February 12, 2002