

IFLA Management of Library Associations Section

Annual Report

January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002

Scope Statement

Within IFLA, the Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) advocates for the interests, aspirations and concerns of the library associations that are represented among IFLA members. 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 Section addresses the needs and promotes interests of all types and sizes of library associations and brings together staff and elected leaders and representatives of these associations to foster and improve leadership skills; share experiences; develop useful publications and to offer workshops, seminars and programmes that address their needs and interests, support IFLA's Core Programmes; and advocate within IFLA for the promotion and development of effective library and library association practices worldwide.

Library associations provide many valuable services to librarians. They work to develop effective library programmes and services that meet the needs of library users and advance societal objectives and interests, ensuring public access to information, and preserving and protecting cultural resources.

In its Medium-Term Programme, MLAS will promote the mission of library associations in setting and maintaining standards for the provision of library services in all types of libraries, encouraging the professional development of librarians through effective training and education programmes that promote lifelong learning.

Membership

The Roundtable for the Management of Library Associations (RTMLA) was transformed into the Management of Library Associations Section at the end of the IFLA 2002 Conference in Glasgow. With this transformation, our membership automatically became all the international (16) and national (115) library associations that are members of IFLA. The Interim MLAS Executive Committee (which had been the RTMLA Executive Committee) has 26 members representing individual library associations, of which 7 are Corresponding members. There is one association awaiting approval to the Executive Committee.

Officers

Interim Chair: Christina Stenberg, Svensk 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 Chair became the Interim MLAS Chair when the RTMLA was transformed into the MLAS at the end of the IFLA conference in Glasgow in August 2002.

Arlene Cohen, Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives, University of Guam, RFK Library UOG Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923, USA.
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The RTMLA Secretary became the Interim MLAS Secretary when the RTMLA was transformed into the MLAS at the end of the IFLA conference in Glasgow in August 2002.

Treasurer: Carla Funk, Executive Director, Medical Library Association, Inc., 65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1900, Chicago, Illinois 60601, USA.
Phone: 1-312-419-9094, FAX: 1-312-419-8950
E-mail: <funk@mlahq.org>.

Carla Funk replaced Roger Parent in August 2002 due to his retirement from the American Association of Law Librarians.

Information Coordinator: Jennefer Nicholson, Executive Director, Australian Library and Information Association, P.O. Box E441, Kingston 2604 AUSTRALIA.
Phone: 61-2-6285-1877, FAX: 61-2-6282-2249,
E-mail: <jennefer.nicholson@alia.org.au>.

Jennefer Nicholson replaced Duane Webster in August 2002.

Meetings

There were two RTMLA Executive Committee meetings this year. The 42nd meeting of the committee was held in The Hague, Netherlands, February 28 - March 1, 2002 with 9 Executive Committee members and 3 guests present. The 43rd meeting of the Executive Committee was held August 17, 2002 in Glasgow, Scotland during the IFLA Conference, with 15 Executive Committee members and 16 guests present.

Projects

In 1998, 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. Prior to this reporting year, four brochures were written and distribution began at the IFLA 2000 Jerusalem Conference.

During this past year, two new brochures were prepared, Association Programs and Services by Leacy O'Brien, and Policies, Planning and Procedures by Jennifer Joseph. Briand Gerard also translated and printed four of the brochures into French: Conseils pour diriger et grer les associations de bibliothques et de bibliothcaires; Encouranger la valorisation des bibliothques - Guide des relations avec les gouvernements; Conseils pour la gestion financire des associations de bibliothques et de bibliothcaires; and Conseils pour le fonctionnement des associations de bibliothques et de bibliothcaires. At the IFLA 2002 Glasgow Conference, all completed brochures were distributed at both the RTMLA Open Session and Workshop.

Carla Funk offered to complete the last brochure, Organizational Structure in time for distribution at the IFLA 2003 Berlin Conference. Additionally, work is continuing on the French translations as well as translations into Spanish and Russian in time for the next IFLA conference.

The highly successful IFLA-RTMLA Listserv (to be renamed the IFLA-MLA listserv), established after the IFLA 2001 Boston Conference continues to be hosted by the Special Libraries Association in Washington, DC, USA and is constantly growing in members and postings. During this reporting year, the listserv grew from 141 (as of December 31, 2001) to 216 subscribers representing over 100 library associations.

The MLAS worked with the American Library Association International Relations Office to link the WWW home pages of library associations from the ALA WWW site with the IFLANET MLAS WWW site. The MLAS contributed library association WWW addressees from our records to Michael Dowling, who with the help of Judson Strain, a library student intern, added our information to their WWW site.

Extensive updating of the IFLA MLAS WWW site was done this year.

The Swedish Library Association continued their pilot project of supporting the participation of one officer of the MLAS who was unable to financially support attendance to meetings. This initiative speaks to affording people without the financial resources or institutional support the opportunity to take on the duties of elected offices. Winnie Vitzansky and Jan-Ewout van der Putten are working on a proposal for funding members from developing countries to participate in MLAS activities.

Although not an MLAS 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 (PIALA) for 2001. In 2002, PIALA's membership recognized the value of IFLA membership and voted to financially support their IFLA membership, a clear example of the value of the Swedish Library Associations model.

Publications

Association Programs and Services and Policies, Planning and Procedures, two new RTMLA brochures. Also, French translations of four previously published RTMLA brochures: Conseils pour diriger et grer les associations de bibliothques et de bibliothcaires; Encouranger la

valorisation des bibliothèques - Guide des relations avec les gouvernements; Conseils pour la gestion financière des associations de bibliothèques et de bibliothécaires; and Conseils pour le fonctionnement des associations de bibliothèques et de bibliothécaires. All of these publications are on the IFLA MLAS WWW site <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/smla.htm#6>>.

RTMLA Brochure, 2002 edition was published.

Batambuze, Charles. "Challenges and strategies of library associations: an overview and examples of Uganda." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/061-094e.pdf>>.

Blanchard, Natalie. "Provocative thoughts of a new generation of librarians." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/060-094e.pdf>>.

Bruijnzeels, Rob. "Creating library spaces: libraries 2040." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/037-094e.pdf>>

Dione, Bernard. "Penses provocatrices d'une nouvelle génération de bibliothécaires." Also translated into English as "Provocative thoughts of a new generation of Librarians." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/109-094f.pdf>> and English translation <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/109-094e.pdf>>

Karisiddappa, C. R. "Role and importance of national and state level associations in library development in India." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA joint workshop with the Asia and Oceania Regional Section. Glasgow, Scotland, August 22, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/020-148e.pdf>>.

Mueller, Uta. "Herausforderungen an das Personalmanagement von Bibliotheken in Zeiten des Umbruchs und Generationswechsels." Also translated into English as "Challenges to human resources development of libraries, in times of radical and generational changes," and French as "Les défis de la gestion du personnel dans les bibliothèques l'époque de changements profonds et du changement de génération." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/059-094g.pdf>>, English translation <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/059-094e.pdf>> and French translation <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/059-094f.pdf>>

Olander, Birgitta. "Recruitment based on applied research: admission tests for new LIS students." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA Open Session. Glasgow, Scotland, August 19, 2002. URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/032-094e.pdf>>.

Ramachandran, R. "Consal Organization - Improving our communication network." Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA joint workshop with the Asia and Oceania Regional Section. Glasgow, Scotland, August 22, 2002.

URL <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/040-148e.pdf>>.

Urmurzina, Kama. "Association "Information Consortium of Kazakhstan Libraries - a possibility of consolidation of information resources within the country." Original in Russian. Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA joint workshop with the Asia and Oceania Regional Section. Glasgow, Scotland, August 22, 2002. URL

<<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/021-148e.pdf>> and Russian

<<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/021-148e.pdf>>

Zaitsev, Valdimir and Boris Marshak. "The experience of practical activities of national and other professional library associations in Russia." Original in Russian. Paper presented at the 68th IFLA RTMLA joint workshop with the Asia and Oceania Regional Section. Glasgow, Scotland, August 22, 2002. URL

<<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/041-148e.pdf>> and Russian

<<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/041-148r.pdf>>.

There was no RTMLA Newsletter published during this year.

Conference Programs

The RTMLA sponsored an Open Session and one joint workshop at the 68th IFLA Conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

The Open Session, Realising visions for the Future: A radical change for library and information associations was presented on Monday, August 19, 2002. It was chaired by Marian Koren with Sabine Stummeijer and Jennefer Nicholson. The workshop was designed to present new visions on libraries and librarianship and to discuss the role library associations could play in attracting and supporting young librarians. Speakers from six different countries delivered their papers and contributed to a lively sessions with visionary views from Rob Bruijnzeels from the Netherlands, quotations from Birgitta Olander from Sweden, (who unfortunately was absent) on the ideal librarian and the admission tests for new LIS students in Lund, Sweden. Challenges to human resources development of libraries were explained by Uta Mueller from Germany and a number of provocative thoughts of a new generation of librarians were expressed by Natalie Blanchard from Australia and Bernard Dione from Senegal, explaining how young librarians could advise on strategies and participate in policy making. Examples of further challenges and strategies of library associations were presented by Charles Batambuze from Ugnada and wrapped up by Jennefer Nicholson from Australia. A large number of participants took the challenge to think creatively for necessary changes. This successful session was attended by 159 people.

The workshop, Current Issues and Activities of Library Associations in Developing Countries, was jointly presented with the Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania on Thursday, August 22, 2002. The workshop was chaired by Boris Marshak and Ekaterina Zaitseva with

Kalpana das Gupta from the Regional Section. Speakers from three different countries, Russia, India and Kazakhstan, representing their library associations, described the situation in their respective countries. Vladimir Zaitsev, Boris Marshak and Kama Urmurzina spoke about the issues in Russian. The paper by C.R. Karisiddappa on the role of library associations in India was presented by Kalpana das Gupta in the absence of author and R. Ramachandran spoke from the perspective of the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians. An additional informal presentation was done by a representative from the Myanmar Library Association. After the presentations were done, there was a discussion about state and regional level issues related to library associations. This session was attended by 35 people.

During both of the above sessions, the RTMLA brochures were available for distribution and by the end of the workshop, the 300 copies of each had been given out.

Relationships with other Bodies

Winnie Vitzansky attended the United Nations sponsored Johannesburg Summit 2002 - The World Summit on Sustainable Development, August 26-September 4, 2002 and presented a statement on behalf of IFLA. The statement was written with the support of the RTMLA by Marian Koren and Winnie Vitzansky and approved by the IFLA Governing Board.

A link was created from the IFLA MLAS WWW site to the publication, Library Associations by Narayanan Rakunathan from the National Library Board, Singapore.

The RTMLA worked with the Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania to plan the joint workshop for the IFLA 2001 Glasgow Conference. We are now working with the Library Theory and Research Section as well as the Management and Marketing Section to plan two separate workshops for the IFLA 2003 Berlin Conference. We are also working with the Section on Regional Activities: Africa to plan a workshop for the IFLA 2003 Buenos Aires Conference.

We continue to work with Advancement of Librarianship Program (ALP) to develop joint programs and identify funding resources.

In addition, the MLAS has had other relationships described throughout this report.

Other Events

For the past several years, a change in our status from Round Table to Section has been discussed within the RTMLA. Finally, prompted by actions taken by IFLA, the RTMLA made the decision to become a Section, with one of the recommendations being that all national and international associations automatically become members of the new section. At the December 2001 meeting of the IFLA Professional Committee, they voted to change the status of the RTMLA to a Section.

The section was founded at the end of the IFLA 2002 Glasgow Conference and by a special decision taken by the Governing Board, all Association members of IFLA automatically became members of MLA Section. The RTMLA Executive Board and officers became the Interim

officers and Executive Board, with elections for the permanent Standing Committee to be held in 2003.

Ashah Owano and Isabel F. Mulanda submitted the report on their RTMLA funded research project, The Impact of Library Associations in the Development of Education and Training in East Africa.

The RTMLA was invited to attend the 9th Crimea 2002 Conference in Sudak, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, June 08-16, 2002. Christina Stenberg attended representing the IFLA RTMLA and presented a workshop. This was the second time the RTMLA has attended the Crimea Conference as a way we can reach out and be involved with other local and regional conferences. It was proposed that guidelines for participation in conferences and workshops other than at the IFLA annual conference be written.

Author

Arlene Cohen, MLAS Interim Secretary
February 2, 2003