



85th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 24–30 August 2019, Athens Greece

IFLA National Libraries Standing Committee _ Meeting II

Wednesday August 28, 10:45-13:15
Room: Business Meeting Room 329

Minutes

1. **Welcome**
 - a. **Apologies**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda.**
3. **SIG reports.**
 - a. appointment of a new convener for NOIR SIG

The Chair thanked Katharina Beberweil and Francesco Manganiello for their work as conveners of the SIG and informed the NLSC that they are stepping down. The Chair therefore asked if some members would like to volunteer. No NLSC member volunteered.

A discussion was engaged regarding the future of the group. Is the SIG still needed and for doing what? Or is international cooperation deemed to merge into the action plan of the NLSC? No conclusion was reached and the Chair requested comments from the group via email.

- b. **Activity report NOIR SIG**

For the 2019 WLIC IFLA in Athens, SIG NOIR organized a successful “East Meets West” session on “how to change, influence and promote the importance of international relations work” followed by a round table discussion on “cultural diplomacy with representatives from the diplomatic community of various countries. With over 100 people attending the session, participants heard presentations on the intersections between “international relations work and the newly revised IFLA Strategic

Framework”, and a case study from Canada on the “the intersections between international relations and cultural diplomacy”. The session concluded with a panel discussion on the “intersections between international relations, engagement and cooperation and cultural diplomacy” with representatives from diplomatic communities in Canada, Qatar, Germany, Russia and South Africa.

- c. Planning report NOIR SIG. In the absence of a new SIG NOIR convener, a full on review of the current (and potentially future function) of the SIG NOIR will be undertaken by the NLSCII.
- d. Future of NILP SIG: report from the convener

Winston Roberts gave an update on NILP SIG, detailing some of the 8-year history of the SIG, which focused on holding a substantial open session at each annual congress (see the presentations on the NILP SIG page on the IFLA website). He will be stepping down to concentrate on WLIC 2022 National Committee work. He shared that presently, judging by the NILP presentations, there seems to be no country with a completely integrated library and information policy that works across all government departments e.g. culture, development, digital etc. He suggested that the work of the SIG be integrated into IFLA’s overall work, or integrated back into the NLSC’s work. His recommendation was that the SIG be closed down as a result.

The Chair thanked Winston Roberts for the work he has done as convener of the SIG.

- 4. **Report from the Open session.** Not discussed – Open Session after the SCII meeting.
- 5. **Report from the special interest group meetings** – no held meetings.
- 6. **Report from the CDNL, including report on the session based on the NL questionnaire ‘Library missions’ - Guy Berthiaume and Isabelle Nyffenegger**

Guy Berthiaume reported back from the CDNL meeting and shared that he communicated the change in the leadership of the NLSC. He reported back on the program at CDNL which focused on discussion and engagement between participants. The focus of discussions was how to engage youth in the future work of national libraries.

The Chair talked about the process that began in 2015 to understand the differences in National Library missions. A survey was carried out. An analysis of the survey results was provided by Irène Bastard (BnF), on request of Geneviève Clavel, NLSC secretary and shared with colleagues from Netherlands (KB), who have been involved in conduction the survey, as well as Kristel Veimann. The question was what could be done with the

results. Irene Bastard (BnF) demonstrated the results of an experimentation made at the CDNL GA to visualize profiles of national libraries. The results show that it is difficult to identify commonalities. Some visualization was possible however, which showed how NL identified themselves in terms of levels of activity. She proposed to identify common topics from the experimentation, conduct a new survey based on these topics and then formalize use cases out them in two years to be hosted on a wiki or equivalent tool

In discussion, Guy Berthiaume asked for first impressions of the survey results. Irene Bastard reported that at first glance it looked like it would be quite hard to define the topics. She clarified for Guy Berthiaume that the 'Bonus subject' addressed in the survey was there to enable participants to add in a topic that the survey may have missed out.

The Chair thanked Irene Bastard and asked the Committee to authorize the continuation of this work under the new Action Plan, for two years. Kristel Veimann, Sophie Vandepontseele and Huism Tan volunteered to work on the next steps of the project.

7. Report on the Digital Unification Working Group – Isabelle Nyffenegger

The Chair reported on the history of this working group and gave a timeline. He reminds that the WG was created to contribute to the implementation of the 2015 UNESCO recommendation on preservation of documentary heritage and IFLA key initiative 3.2. Guy Berthiaume chaired the group from 2017 and Isabelle Nyffenegger from 2018. Two main deliverables were carried out: case studies online, and publishing guidelines for anyone who want to undertake a digital unification project.

A survey was used to collect case studies: 18 projects from 22 institutions representing 50 countries worldwide. Analysis showed that projects had three objectives: gather documents produced by the same cultural, linguistic or religious community; gather and enhance documents produced as part of a story shared by several countries; or digitally rebuild a document or collection. Case studies are now on the website, each with photo and description: <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/92333?og=7607>

Regarding digital unification guidelines, the Chair worked with Kristian Jensen from the British Library. Guidelines help with the definition of a project, managing, and finalizing it. Multiple answers are shared for each step, so it is not a norm-setting process, more one that gives an idea of how colleagues have done the work. Guidelines and further information are available on the IFLA website: www.ifla.org/publications/node/92435

The working group is now closed. The Chair asked that the Committee take work of the working group under the umbrella of the National libraries section, and the Committee agreed. The Chair and the BnF will continue to grow the work and maintain the materials. The Chair asked the Committee to agree that UNESCO were contacted and asked to use the guidelines as a tool to implement the 2015 recommendation.

It was agreed to contact IFLA HQ to make sure the materials are properly promoted on the website and added to news.

The National Libraries section was not a member of IFLA's Cultural Heritage Programme Advisory Committee but an invitation for us to join has been sent during WLIC and accepted.

8. Activities and actions for 2020

Continued communications work was agreed as an action. Stuart Hamilton shared that following the WLIC all mailing lists would be updated to reflect new members' details. Main communication would continue to be through email. The NatLibs mailing list would continue to share a monthly newsletter of national libraries news.

Genevieve Clave-Merrin reminded new Committee members that they must share up to date information when requested by HQ or their details will not be able to be posted on the website due to data protection issues.

Each member of the Committee was recommended to send Stuart Hamilton at least one news item for the monthly newsletter by the 15th of each month.

As per the Chair's earlier recommendations, the development of an on line tool to visualize library missions and activities was agreed as an action, along with the continuation of the work on digital reunification.

Guy Berthiaume suggested that the future of SIG NOIR should be an action item. The Committee agreed.

Continued and closer cooperation with CDNL was agreed as an action. "Midterm meeting" with the SC officers and CDNL chairs is desirable.

As settled on SCI meeting and on point 10 "Any other business" the observation of how national libraries implement the ISO 21248 standard was taken into the action plan.

Liisa Savolainen reminded that according the IFLA Action Plan guidelines each Action should have described outputs (countable) and outcomes (influence on your audience).

Francesco Manganiello would help the Chair, Liisa Savolainen and Stuart Hamilton to prepare the Action Plan for IFLA.

9. National Library Section's program at IFLA 2020

Report from planning group

Liisa Savolainen reported back on planning for the open session at WLIC 2020. Discussions focused around legal deposit as it is a task of national libraries – no one else is doing it. A working title of ‘The Future of Legal Deposit in a Globalized World: National Libraries and National Collections’ was suggested. Potential cooperation with CLM was mooted. An approach with a mix of presentation and skillfully moderated discussion was suggested.

The Committee discussed the proposal. Mark Sweeney shared that the issue was highly timely for the Library of Congress and supported it. Lars Ilshammar agreed on the importance of the topic but noted that the programme needed to consider alternative options for legal deposit in the digital world. Other committee members suggested that the relationship between legal deposit and web harvesting would also be worth considering. What about national bibliography in this environment? What about self-published material? In some countries where legal deposit does not exist, what would be our advice for those considering it? How does the trust relationship with publishers work when you’re moving from legally deposited print materials to digital? Are we being too conservative in our approach, in order not to provoke publishers?

There was general agreement on the topic and an agreement to proceed.

Huism Tan shared that the Rare Books Section has approached the Committee to work together on a session on exhibitions. The Committee agreed to pursue this as an additional option.

SIG programmes

There wasn’t any discussion about the SIG programmes as the NILP SIG was closed and the future of the NOIR SIG was left for further discussions.

10. Any other business

ISO standard 21248 Quality assessment for national libraries

There was some discussion around the implementation of ISO standards from committee members from Germany and Estonia. ISO standard is a good benchmarking tool between national libraries. So the implementation of the standard in different libraries can also lead to practical results. It was agreed that something along these lines should be added to the action plan, and that Renate Gömpel would draft a description of what we would look at.

Genevieve Clave-Merrin reminded the Committee of a session about engaging with the Professional Committee and the reform of governance process. Liisa Savolainen and Huism Tan will attend.

SC Members attending

Chair: Isabelle Nyffenegger

Secretary: Liisa Savolainen
Information Officer: Stuart Hamilton

SC Members

Nafisah Ahmad
Elsa Barber
Gerard Bouwmeester
Renate Gömpel
Lars Ilshammar
Katarina Kristofova
Francesco Manganiello
Juok Park
Winston Roberts
Katarzyna Slaska
Mark Sweeney
Huism Tan
Sophie Vandepontseele
Kristel Veimann

SIG Convener

Corresponding Members

Melita Ambrozic

Observers

Masaki Aihara
Jawhara Al Abdulla
Basse Anais
Joaquim M. Andrade
Hesham Azmi
Irene Bastard
Maria M. Brenes
Guy Berthiaume
Genevieve Clavel-Merrin
Maureen Clapperton
Irina Gayshun
Franck Hurinville
Ingibjörg Steinung Sverrisdottir
Kiti Vilkki-Eriksson
Martyn Wade

Not attending

Angela Maria Monteiro Bettencourt
Quan Rao
Hajer Sahli

Apologies

Hans Jansen

Jaesun Lee