**IFLA News Media Section Standing Committee**

**Business Meeting**

**Via Zoom**

**January 28, 2021**

**Attending**: Ann Okerson (Chair), Mazelan Anuar (Secretary), Mary Feeney, Minna Kaukonen, Sofia Klarin, Michael Luetgen, Pär Nilsson, Rich Richie, Perla Olivia Rodriguez, Nina Servizzi, Deb Thomas, Frederick Zarndt.

**I. Welcome, Introductions.** Ann welcomed everyone to the meeting and all attendees provided some updates on matters relating to their work.

**II. Minutes of December 1 meeting**. The minutes were approved.

**III. FLA Updates.**

Ann will share more news and information about nominations and deadlines after the Feb 11 General Assembly. Voting will be done electronically. Ann urged attendees to recruit new members, remarking that the output of the small group has been strong but we can use more members to realize our goals and ambitions. Members were advised to give examples of what the group has done and is doing to attract and persuade new members.

WLIC 2021 will be virtual but the format is not fullly finalised. The Congress may not run for one entire week and the open sessions may not run for two hours as in the past.

Mary enquired if the theme was already decided to which Ann confirmed not yet and this will give News Media elbow room to tie the group’s theme with WLIC’s.

There will be registration fees for WLIC, using a commercial online meeting platform - such as much more versatile Zoom - will not be cheap. For example, with such multi-functional virtual platforms, licence fees can go up as the number of attendees increases.

Michael suggested that IFLA plan for the participation of private industry as exhibitors, so as not to lose sponsorship. He shared that an archive conference he attended last year had a platform for participants to meet and engage with vendors. Ann requested that Michael provided the information about conference’s organisers so that she can pass the contacts and his comment to IFLA HQ. Michael suggested it may be a good idea to include a few exhibitors in the WLIC’s planning committee.

**IV. Focus Areas Moving Forward?**

Ann remarked that Rich Richie has been working on his own on the listing of born digital newspapers as well as documentation of reliable sources. Rich welcomed any help in these areas. Later this spring, Nina will convene a small working group to develop the resource centre idea.

**V. Fake News Lecture Series**

Mary updated the group on behalf of Ana, the chair of the organizing committee. The November lecture peaked at 124 participants and the January lecture received about 100. The partnerships with Digital Humanities, CLM, and FAIFE were very good. The upcoming (final) lectures in the series will be in February, with Anke, Rich, Fred, and Ana as moderators. Ann suggested conducting promotional activities to highlight the programme.

Ann suggested sponsoring Kathryn Harrison of Deep Trust Alliance for a talk, which could be either a wrap-up for the series or a Midterm lecture. She opined that much of what Deep Trust Alliance are doing meshes with News Media’s (and also IFLA's) objectives. Such a talk could spark interest with IFLA HQ as a possible affiliation. Nina agreed that it could be a good fit with what we do, especially on fake news. Frederick believed it would be a great idea to collaborate with Kathryn and Deep Trust. Rich seconded Fred’s thought and suggested the talk could be in April.

**VI. Program Planning Discussions for 2021**

Ann suggested deferring the programme planning until we have more detailed information from IFLA.

**VII. Other Business**

Perla suggested organising a seminar (possibly a 2022 Midterm meeting) in Spanish and English about COVID-19's impact on social media - especially Facebook and Twitter. This news topic is crucially important in Mexico and other Latin American countries, so it is valuable to continue the dialogue. Perla can request her research group to organise the online seminar. Fred felt this could be a great way to engage Latin America and recruit new members to our committee. Ann agreed that we’ll take this on board and requested Perla to send more information to the mailing list. [Ann's note: Perla subsequently sent in a brief description, which will be discussed in a future 2021 Business Meeting.]

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.