



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Public Libraries Section

**Mid-Term Meeting
Barcelona
25 February 2015**

Draft Minutes

Time:	Meeting 1: 25 February 2015
Location:	Sant Gervasi Joan Maragall Library
Time:	Meeting 2: 27 February
Location:	Monastery of Montserrat
Members in attendance	Anette Mjoberg, Angels Migueles Sarri, Annie Dourlent, Hitomi Takeuchi, Jan Richards, Josephine Siegrist, Leikny H Indergaard, Ljiljana Sabljak, Lo Claesson, Montserrat Espuga Condal, Marian Morgan-Bindon, Raymond Santiago. Libuse Nivnická
Guests:	Corrado Di Tillio, Danka Hajsig, Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, Ilona Kish
Apologies	Corinne Hill, Sarah Dudek, Pirkko Lindberg, Tebogo Mzizi, Suzanne Payette, Paul Tovell

Item Number	
1	Welcome and apologies for absence: The Chair, Marion Morgan Bindon Marian thanked all PLS members for travelling to Barcelona for the mid-term meeting and associated conference. Special thanks were extended to Angels and Montse for the work they have done in preparing the agenda and associated events. Angels and Montse provided details of the program.
2	Approval and follow-up of the minutes of the meeting held in Lyon: The Minutes of the Meetings in Lyon were confirmed as a true and correct record.
2.1	Actions and Business arising from the meetings in Lyon: There were no items arising that were not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

	Other items covered in the agenda .
3	Review of Action Plan 2014/2015
4	IFLA 2015
4.1	<p>IFLA 2015 Congress Cape Town Public Library Satellite 13-14 August, Cape Town</p> <p>Marian provided an update on planning for the Satellite and explained that we are looking for a very practical approach. Members were asked to contribute their thoughts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Raymond suggested that a possible theme could be a change of thought process for Library staff eg 'Letting go'. Raymond also spoke about some of the work done post 'Katrina' as a way of addressing this and demonstrating that libraries can be many things. Raymond also suggested that it may be important for delegates to work in small groups so they feel empowered to speak freely to develop solutions ➤ Montse asked about the availability of mobile technology in South Africa - is the development of an app a more appropriate way to go? Montse also suggested that it is important to include mobile libraries as part of the solution. They have a high satisfaction rate and they are adaptable spaces. ➤ Annie stressed the importance of staff training and development. Staff need to be trained before they can train users. ➤ Josephine also stressed the need to talk about personal data protection and the internet.
4.2	<p>Program sessions in partnership with :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IFLA's Library Services to Persons with Special Needs Section. Skype meetings have been held to further this program and a decision has been made to focus on library services to homeless persons/prisons and mental health. 2. Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Jan provided an update on this session <i>Learning across boundaries: a workshop</i>. Five speakers have been selected from the 24 applicants. This session will take the form of a World café. 3. Information Technology Section. <i>Technology facilitating access to information: libraries for development</i>. This has attracted 12 applications.
5	2016
5.1	<p>Mid-term 2016</p> <p>The 2016 will be held in Zagreb, Croatia in the first week of March 2016 with a focus on Libraries and Learning. Once again there will be a symposium where colleagues from Croatia will be invited and also library visits. It was suggested that the program be developed in partnership with IFLA's Education and Training and CPD sections.</p>
5.2	<p>Congress 2016</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Satellite event in Philadelphia After considerable discussion it was agreed that a good theme was to return to the concept of why public libraries should be free. This reflected concerns about developments worldwide. This could be enlarged to encompass partnerships/sponsorship/fundraising. <p>Raymond suggested that it would be a great opportunity to showcase the libraries of the world exposure of the state of the public library we have so much to learn from</p>

	<p>each other.</p> <p>2. Congress Columbus Ohio</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Possible themes and partners were discussed. It was agreed that we should carefully consider how many programs we are involved in and MetLib and Management and Marketing were highlighted as possible partners. Possible topics were: ➤ Does size make a difference? ➤ Does digital give small libraries an edge? ➤ What is the IT factor <p>A further brainstorming session elicited these responses as possible topics for 2016 or future programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Free speech/freedom of expression ➤ Library services to Homeless Persons ➤ Patrons with special need eg Children with ADD ➤ Visibility in the City – outside the library walls (possibly in association with Management and Marketing) ➤ How digital developments have changed the library – reading, creativity, work practices ➤ The right to speak/censorship
6	Review of Ongoing Projects - Updates
6.1	<p>Survey – <i>How do you 'describe a Library'?</i> project – community responses</p> <p>Jan spoke to this survey which is now complete. Responses were received from about 30 countries with similar responses internationally. Jan will develop a story for members to circulate within their networks.</p>
6.2	<p>Gates Foundation European Union Project</p> <p>Annie explained that this project was now completed.</p>
6.3	<p>Library Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1001 Libraries to see Before You Die <p>Jan spoke about the website and encouraged section members to promote the site. She will develop a story for members to include in professional literature in their respective countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Library of the Year Award <p>Marian explained that the Danish Agency for Culture have approached the section about continuing the relationship for the public library of the year Award Jonna advised that the Agency had secured sponsorship for the Award and it would be offered for a further 4 years.</p>
6.4	<p>The Lyon Declaration</p> <p>The Section developed a submission on the <i>Lyon Declaration</i> and its impact on Public Libraries.</p> <p>Jan recommended that all PLS libraries sign the Lyon Declaration and use it as an advocacy tool for public libraries in their own community. The report on the web has some good terms to be used in a report.</p>
6.5	<p>MetLib Statistical Survey</p> <p>MetLib has gathered data from institutional members of the Section for many years. From 2000 + is available on the MetLib website Moved from basic data revolving around stock and has evolved to include budgets, fees, visitor numbers, opening hours, technology etc. In 2009 there were 61 participating libraries.</p>

	<p>There is no longer funding to support this important project and MetLib is looking for a more consultative approach and has established a working group. Volunteers from PLS are needed to support this work.</p>
7	<p>Professional project funding request – The Public Library Manifesto A request for funding to update the Public Library Manifesto was submitted but not successful. The Section agreed that the Manifesto should be re-examined, perhaps in association with the program for Philadelphia.</p>
8	<p>Elections 2015 All members were reminded to vote in the forthcoming elections.</p>
9	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA Governing Board International Advocacy Program Gloria provided an outline on the International Advocacy Programme ➤ Ilona Kish Program Director Public Libraries 2020
10	<p>Annie (France) spoke about the attacks on Charlie Ebdoe and the Jewish supermarkets in Paris. This led to discussions around freedom of expression - this has led to greater awareness of the issue in libraries led to questions re role of libraries keeping people connected, strong libraries and communities safe space where people can meet highlighted the role of libraries small exhibitions, things on web sites to reinforce the importance</p> <p>Montse (Spain) Celebrate 100 years of librarianship in Catalonia school of librarianship exhibition</p> <p>Libuse (Czech Republic) IFLA President Sinika came to Bruno to meet with Association members and also library staff. She spoke about IFLA and Czech Republic Libuse's library project is completed with special spaces for families.</p> <p>Ljiliana (Croatia) Library services for minority groups in Croatian languages, evaluation expansion succession planning, budget constraints.</p> <p>Raymond (USA) Economic situation slightly improved in US with most libraries doing a little better .Internet neutrality is supported by congress which leads to equity</p> <p>Leikney (Norway) As a result of changes to the Library Act a year ago there has been discussion around the role of Library Managers as moderators of discussions and freedom of expressions.</p> <p>Angels (Spain) Introduction of eBooks and RFID into Barcelona libraries</p> <p>Hitomi (Japan) 2 major Japanese libraries now run by private companies. Laws have changed to ensure there is a teacher librarians school librarian in school in each school.</p> <p>Josephine (Switzerland) Swing to commercial rather than public service delivery of library services in Zurich including tax implications where tax is payable on service contracts This</p>

	<p>was seen by members as further evidence for the theme of the satellite in Philadelphia.</p> <p>Jan and Marian (Australia) Queensland government has given \$21 million dollars towards an early childhood literacy project position reading as part of everyday life. ALIA has launched the FAIR Campaign for lobbying and advocacy.</p>
11	<p><i>Guidelines for Homeless Persons</i></p> <p>The Section has been asked to support the development of a guideline for Homeless Persons. After some discussion it was agreed that a separate guideline was not desirable as equity of access was essential for all clients groups. Instead it was proposed that examples of best practice be developed with examples. This will be included on the Agenda for future meetings.</p>
12	<p>Marian passed a vote of thanks to Montse, Angels and Esther for arranging our visit to the Monastery and for the privilege of being able to hold our second meeting there. All present agreed.</p>