First Standing Committee Meeting: Saturday 15 August, 9.45-12:15

1. Welcome and introductions.

Standing Committee Members present: Maria Aurora Diez (incoming member), Mark Dimunation, David Farneth, Isabel García-Monge, Daryl Green, Hege S. Høsøien (incoming member), Beth Kilmarx (incoming member), Krister Östlund, Meg Phillips (incoming member), Mohamed Soliman (incoming member), Winston Tabb.

Other attendees: Mazelan Anuar, Rosangela Arruda, Jan Bos, Wafa Chookah, Kelly Grogg, Martin Herman, Korklu A. Larya, Aisha al Kaabi, Marilaine Schaun Pelufê da Silva, Mohammed Reza Majidi, Liisa Savolainen, Chu Shuging, Antje Theise, Elisabeth de Wet, Wu Yuling, Huang Zhondag.

Standing Committee Members not present: Fabiano Cataldo, Maria Ermakova, Stanislav Ermolenco, Pilar Egoscozabal Carrasco, Claudia Fabian, Bente Granrud, Eric Holzenberg, Valerie Hotchkiss, Naïma Keddane, Raphaële Mouren, Angela Nuovo, Edwin C. Schroeder, Tatjana Subotin-Golubovic, Marijana Tomic, Garrelt Verhoeven, Marina Venier, Helen Vincent, Alicia Yeo.

2. Minutes from the business meetings in Lyon (2014) and from the midterm meeting in London (April 2015).

The August 2014 (Lyon) and the April 2015 (midterm meeting London) minutes have been approved and are posted on the website.

3. Summary of the RBSC events in Cape Town

a) Satellite Conference

Managing and Promoting Special Collections in Africa: The Bleek-Lloyd Collection and Beyond.

b) Business Meetings:

Standing Committee I 15 August 2015 | 09:45 - 12:15 |
Standing Committee II 19 August 2015 | 09:45 – 11:15 |

c) Conference Sessions:

Session 206 — Fostering Collaboration to Build and Preserve African Cultural Heritage | 20 August 2015 | 10:45 - 12:45 |

d) Special Events:

Wednesday, 19 August. Afternoon visit to the National Library of South Africa.

Wednesday, 19 August Group Dinner: Anatoli’s Turkish Restaurant

4. Election of officers

New officers of the section for the period 2015-17 were elected:

Chair: Helen Vincent
Secretary: Krister Östlund
Information coordinator: Daryl Green
5. Announcement of future IFLA meetings
- 2016 Midyear meeting Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 Satellite conference, Newberry Library, Chicago, USA, 10-11 August 2016
- 2016 IFLA World Congress, Columbus, Ohio, USA, 13-19 August 2016
- 2017 Midyear meeting (to be determined)
- 2017 World Congress, Wrocław, Poland

6. Brief report on the pre-conference satellite meeting at the University of Cape Town
The pre-conference satellite meeting Managing and Promoting Special Collections in Africa: The Bleek-Lloyd Collection and Beyond was held at the Centre for African Studies Gallery, Oppenheimer Building, University of Cape Town, 14 August 2015 9.30 – 16.30. 35 persons attended the conference.
There were two sessions before lunch: 1) The Bleek-Lloyd Collection, and 2) Managing African Collections. After lunch there was a panel discussion led by Beth Kilmarx: Providing Access to African Cultural Heritage, followed by a presentation of UCT rare book collection by Tanya Barben, former rare books librarian UCT Special Collections.
All the papers will be published on the web. Renate Meyer, Head of Special Collections at the University was warmly thanked for taking care of local arrangements.

7. Status report on the translations of the Digitization Guidelines
Finished: English, Chinese, Italian, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Turkish,
- In negotiation: Hindu
- Needed: Russian, Arabic, French, and Japanese. Mohamed Soliman volunteered to arrange for a translation into Arabic.

8. Report and discussion on the blog
Discussions begun last year to possibly replace the Newsletter with a blog. Daryl was asked to look into this, and he has now created a blog on the Hypotheses platform, which is run by Centre for Open Electronic Publishing. There are several things to consider: how do we maintain the blog and make it relevant? How do we use it? Ideally it is going to be a forum for what is happening internationally within the Rare Books and Special Collections community in a broad sense, not necessarily limited to IFLA.
We decided to test the blog for one year, analyse the outcome next year in Columbus, and then decide whether to continue the blog or not. Members will be asked to submit blog content directly to Daryl.

9. Minor communications
a) We need to write a brief in support of the Lyon declaration from a cultural heritage point of view. Helen will lead the work.
b) We need to map our future activities to IFLA’s new strategic plan, especially to the Strategic Direction 3: Cultural Heritage.
c) The IFLA journal will in the future only be published electronically
d) IFLA HQ has announced that Poster sessions, satellite meetings’ papers should soon be eligible for inclusion in the IFLA Library,
e) IFLA HQ has purchased new software to facilitate the work processes (Basecamp and Survey Gizmo)
10. Brief report on the midyear meeting and conference in London on developing standards for documenting the provenance of rare books

The London midyear meeting (11-13 March 2015) was a three day meeting, starting with a workshop in collaboration with CERL with the aim to create a framework for developing standards for provenance of rare books. Considering the strong interest in these matters in Europe and the rising interest in the US, it is of vital interest that the RBSC closely follow this process in the future. Claudia Fabian was suggested as a liaison from RBSC to the network and groups working on these issues. The second day was devoted to business meetings and a joint meeting with representatives from CILIP, and on the third day we visited Oxford for meetings with Special Collection Librarians.

11. Discussion of a date, venue, and topic for the 2016 Midyear meeting.

We decided to accept the invitation to hold a midyear meeting at the National Library of Portugal, Lisbon. Date is not yet decided, probably late February or early March 2016. Topics could include:
- Follow up on the provenance meeting, broaden the perspective to also include migration of collections, theft, looting reconstruction of collections
- State of the cataloguing of rare books and manuscripts, scholarly need

12. Ideas for next year’s program sessions in Columbus

a) An all-day off-site meeting at the University of Ohio (or a 3-hour conference session) about special collection and rare book cataloging. Topics might include:
- Introduction to the importance of cataloging for special collections
- Introduction to RDA and the revised DCRM
- Perhaps a session or two cataloging non book material (maps, graphics, etc.)

b) Born digital cultural heritage: share ideas about what to collect - what to preserve?

c) Special Collections Roundtable. Why have a rare book collection? / strategy meeting on the future of special collections

d) Documenting visual images in special collections/Metadata for digitized images: a survey of the range of work being done internationally as a step towards developing standards. This could include a paper on cartoon collections.

Second Standing Committee Meeting: Wednesday 19 August, 09.45-11:15

Standing Committee Members present: Maria Aurora Diez(incoming member), Mark Dimunation, David Farneth, Isabel García--Monge, Daryl Green, Hege S. Høsøien (incoming member), Beth Kilmarx (incoming member), Krister Östlund, Meg Phillips (incoming member), Mohamed Soliman (incoming member).

Other attendees: Jan Bos, Julia Brungs, Lisa Carter, Martin Hermann, Karklu Laryea, Kirsty McPhee, Nomfeeko Mgilane, Andile Ntungzela, Maria Luisa Russo, Liisa Savolainen, Chris Tang, Antje Thiese, Samuel Tshikalange, Inarlé de Vaal
1. IFLA’s new Cultural Heritage Initiative
Julia Brungs (IFLA HQ) informed more about the new Cultural Heritage Programme Advisory Committee which will be launched as a part of the IFLA Key Initiatives 2015-16. We strongly stressed that it is of vital interest that the RBSC section be represented in this group, and we urged Julia Brungs to promptly examine how this can be achieved as soon as possible.

2. Finalized program sessions’ plans for the 2016 meetings in Lisbon/Chicago/Columbus

Lisbon Midyear meeting
Current issues in Rare Book Cataloging. Extending the discussion from CERL’s November meeting in Edinburgh and last year’s Provenance meeting. Impact of RDA; Rare book provenance from an international perspective: spoliation, transfer of collections, repatriation etc. (A theme that would fit perfectly into the strategic plan).
This program could also be open to an international audience.
Program committee: Daryl Green (chair), Helen Vincent, Claudia Fabian, Isabel García-Monge, Krister Östlund, Mohamed Soliman and Fabiano Cataldo.

Chicago Satellite meeting
Wednesday-Thursday, 10-11 August 2016 (leaving Friday for travel to Columbus). Newberry Library, Chicago. “Collaborating with researchers in managing special collections: collection development, description, preservation, and access”, or something similar.
Program committee: Edwin Schroeder (chair), Valerie Hotchkiss, Meg Phillips, Beth Kilmarx, Hege S. Høsøien.

Columbus: all-day, off-site session, presumably Monday, 15 August, at the Cartoon Museum and Library, Ohio State University
Theme: Image cataloging & metadata, access.
Possible topics:
- Descriptive standards by genre; impact of RDA; Linked data
- For photographs: the carrier vs content depicted dichotomy; how photography has impacted historical inquiry
- Classification and indexing standards
- Access and discovery of images “hidden” in codices and other special collections
- State of the art in image recognition (computer vision) technology; with case studies
- Cartoons and other graphic media
- Making images available through IIIF and other formats.
Program committee: Valerie Hotchkiss and David Farneth (chairs), Isabel Garcia-Monge, Beth Kilmarx, Mark Dimunation, Meg Phillips and Lisa Carter (OSU).
Partners: Art Libraries Section, A V Section, Cataloging Section, Classification and Indexing Section

Columbus Conference Session 1
Theme: The State of Affairs in Cultural Heritage Security. This session is intended as preparation for a meeting in Poland with library leaders.
Program committee: Daryl Green (chair) in consultation with Julia Brungs.

The session will further the process of reporting & recording thefts internationally; aim to de-stigmatise the reporting of thefts (something which still many libraries will not make publicly aware); and to continue to build bridges between the curatorial and commercial arms of the cultural heritage profession. Invited papers from experts in this field will address this topic under the new cultural heritage section of IFLA’s new strategy document.

Columbus Conference Session 2
The Preservation and Conservation section is going to propose a conference session with us about standards. More details forthcoming. We agreed to participate in this session, and one member of the RBSC section (not yet determined) will serve on the program committee.

Columbus Conference Session 3
“Trends in Rare Book and Special Collections Cataloging”

This would be a session of highlights from midyear meetings and the Chicago preconference. Perhaps four papers:
- Impact of RDA on Rare Book and SC cataloging
- Developments in provenance metadata
- Partnering with researchers to enhance special collections cataloging
- Trends in the cataloging, indexing, discovery, and delivery of photographs

Together with the Cataloging Section (to be determined).

Program committee: Claudia Fabian (proposed chair).

3. Future activities
- David Farneth volunteered to continue assisting with editing the webpage
- The sections’ printed brochures will be converted into webpages

4. Closing
Outgoing chair David Farneth was warmly thanked for his excellent service and work for the section during the past two years.