

**IFLA WLIC 2013 / Singapore  
Rare Books and Manuscripts Section  
Minutes from the Business Meetings in Singapore, 2013**

**First Standing Committee Meeting: Saturday 17th August, 12:30-15:00**

**Welcome and introductions.**

**Standing Committee Members present:** Chu Shuqing, David Farneth, Edwin Schroeder, Garrelt Verhoeven, Isabel García-Monge, Krister Östlund, Maria Ermakova, Mark Dimunation, Raphaële Mouren.

**Other attendees:** Alex Tesh, Byambasuren Demed, Chhiem Kan, Hussain Ahmad, Irmhild Schäfer, James Chan, Margy Burn, Mony Chhuon, Munkhchimeg Tserendorj, Rebecca Hankins, Russell Lynch, Sharifa Al Faheem, Suon Sophy, Wallace Chan, Yao Junming.

**Regrets from:** Pilar Egoscozábal, Bente Grandrud, Pilar Moreno, Tatjana Subotin-Golubovic, Claudia Fabian, Angela Nuovo, Jan Bos and Olga Vega.

**Approval of the August 2012 minutes.**

The August 2012 minutes (Helsinki) were approved.

**Digitization guidelines.**

The RBM Standing Committee officially endorsed the Digitization Guidelines.

**Officers election.**

New officers were elected: David Farneth (Chair), Krister Östlund (Secretary and Treasurer) and Edwin Schroeder (Information Coordinator and Newsletter Editor).

**Rare Books and Manuscripts Section sessions in Singapore Congress.**

Raphaële Mouren and David Farneth presented the RBM program in Singapore.

- On Monday August 19<sup>th</sup>, off-site visit at the National Library of Singapore: "Rare and special collections in the Asian or Oceania context", with Asia and Oceania Section.
- On Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>, presentation of the Digitization Guidelines.
- On Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>, "Preserving for the future: Integrating physical and digital preservation" with Information Technology, Preservation and Conservation and Research Services for Parliaments.
- On Thursday August 22<sup>th</sup>, "Images, lost and found: Innovative approaches to discovery and use of visual material found in rare books, manuscripts, and special collections" with Art Libraries section.

**Translations for Singapore Congress papers.**

French translations and a substantial number of Spanish translations had been provided (the librarians from the National Library in Spain were thanked for their efforts). Other SC members will be contacted in order to get translations in German, Russian, Arabic and Chinese. Chinese attendees expressed their interest and would contact their colleagues for this purpose. The SC discussed the development of a network of translators.

### **Cooperation with other sections.**

Raphaële Mouren stressed the importance of working with new sections during these last few years, such as with Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Information Technology, Research Services for Parliaments, and Art Libraries, in addition to those with which RBM usually cooperates, as Preservation and Conservation.

### **Financial report.**

The 2012 allocation from IFLA for the section was 700 euros. IFLA approved an increase up to 874 euros for expenses related to the publication of the Anwerp Midterm conference, *Ambassadors of the Book*, as these publications are the kind of activities that IFLA encourages.

### **RBM members and activities.**

Raphaële presented the publication of *Ambassadors of the Book*.

The 2013 midterm in Moscow was not held as many participants were not able to find funding.

The section has lost a few members. This year, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section has 110 members. Chu Shuqing became corresponding member of the Standing Committee. Daryl Green had joined the Section and would be interested in creating a blog for it. The importance of participation in the Section activities during the entire year was emphasized.

The next elections will take place in 2015.

### **Programme for Lyon 2014**

There will be a satellite meeting in Lyon and the theme proposed is History of Librarianship.

For the Congress sessions some themes were discussed:

- Special collections and new libraries buildings; Edwin Schroeder will contact the Library Buildings and Equipment Section to try and develop a session together.
- Other subjects would be teaching the history of the book, or the management of rare books collections, including new ways of presenting and interpreting special collections for scholars and for the general public. The outreach to immigrant groups and how to document these groups, as part of local history, was also mentioned.

During the Congress some visits to libraries could also be organized.

### **2015 Congress in Cape Town.**

Russel Lynch, Division II chair, visited the meeting and announced Cape Town as the location for the 2015 IFLA Congress.

The organization of this satellite meeting was discussed, as were the difficulties to prepare it. This meeting will be revisited after the distribution of a list of institutions offering to host these meetings. It would be interesting to prepare it with other sections, specifically with the Africa section.

### **Other Rare Books and Manuscripts section projects.**

It was stressed that any projects or activities should work in line with IFLA's key initiatives.

The list of **International Organizations and Projects Related to Rare Books and Manuscripts** is still considered to be very useful as it provides contacts on these matters for small libraries, but it is obsolete and should be updated. Each country should send their information, including members of the section, not only SC members.

**Leaflets.**

Raphaële Mouren proposed to do without leaflets and substitute them for pages on the web site in different languages. David Farneth will draft a new text that will be translated into the other official languages.

**National Bibliographies survey**

It's proposed to ask Claudia Fabian about the results of the survey and relaunch it if necessary.

**Communication Plan**

The insufficient visibility of the RBM section website is a problem. There is also the question of creating and keeping an active social network. Chu Shuqing and his colleagues offered to disseminate RBM information through Chinese social networks.

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**Second Standing Committee Meeting Wednesday 21th august, 9:45-11:15**

**Standing Committee Members and Corresponding members present:** Chu Shuqing, David Farneth, Edwin Schroeder, Garrelt Verhoeven, Isabel García-Monge, Krister Östlund, Maria Ermakova, Mark Dimunation, Raphaële Mouren, Wiston Tabb.

**Other attendees:** Heather Brown, Iman Ezzeldin, Jinda Chotewattanakul, Mages Periasamy, Mitsuo Nitta, Mohamed Salim, Ornella Foglieni, Raphaëlle Bats, Russell Lynch, Shubigi Rao, Tanja de Boer.

David Farneth presented an agenda for this second meeting.

**2015 Congress in Cape Town.**

The possibility of a satellite in Cape Town was discussed further. In case of organizing a satellite meeting, David Farneth suggested doing it in the same city to prevent further expenses. As most participants will be local professionals, it would be interesting to address some subjects relevant for this area, such as what is considered special collections in Africa. Dr. Iman Ezz El Din Ismail, Director in the National Library of Egypt, pointed out the interest in comparing collections from North Africa and Middle East with the rest of Africa. Mark Dimunation proposed the analysis of the concept of cultural heritage in Africa, including the study of how African contemporary history is being documented in situations such as the Arab Spring. The preservation of this heritage could also be a subject, in association with Blue Shield. It would be a day and a half meeting. To prevent asking for a fee, Garrelt Verhoeven suggested addressing The Prince Claus Fund for financial support.

For the RBM section session during the congress, Mark Dimunation proposed the state of contemporary books in Africa, in collaboration with Jack Ginsberg (art books collector) and the Art Libraries Section.

Garrelt suggested contacting the University and the local committee to organize both satellite and session.

### **2014 Lyon Session with Library Buildings and Equipment Section.**

Edwin Schroeder had a meeting with Library Buildings and Equipment Section to organize the session on new buildings for libraries which hold special collections. Ornella Foglieni, secretary of the Preservation and Conservation Section, declared that they are also interested in organizing this session with RBM. Preservation and Conservation is interested in the new uses of special collections. Edwin will organize the session with these sections.

### **2014 Lyon RBM Session.**

This session could be an offsite visit. Raphaële will consult with the Director of the Bibliothèque Municipale de Lyon as a possible venue. The subject could be the study of rare books and history of the book for those responsible of special collections, or teaching the history of the books in the digital era. The objective will be to establish a document for smaller libraries that have, or want to develop, a special collections program. Garrelt and Mark will shape the idea for this session.

Raphaële Bats, from ENSSIB, proposed to cooperate with the RBM section not only for the Lyon satellite meeting but also for the exhibition *Le livre, virgulle* (The book, comma), which will include short text that members of the section could translate.

### **2014 Midterm meeting.**

David proposed to organize a midterm meeting in the United States to discuss these ideas and Mark offered to host the meeting. Some visits could be included. The favorite dates are March-April. A significant number of the SC members present believe they will be able to attend.

### **Other RBM objectives and activities.**

The group discussed several priorities for new and on-going initiatives:

- The group felt that the publication of documents and guidelines should remain an important activity of the Section.
- The group discussed moving forward with a proposal to change the name of the section, and to bring to a close the discussions that started two years ago.
- Different aspects of a communication plan were discussed, including the use of the two RBM mailing lists. It would be important to improve the contents of the web page, specially the outdated list of *Organizations and Projects Related to Rare Books and Manuscripts*. The development of contents for social media was proposed, but the time and dedication that it implies should also be considered. The objective of knowing and improving the visibility of the newsletter is still an issue and maybe should be disseminated through more lists. The section could ask IFLA for web statistics. It was argued that some of the contents are more appropriate for a blog but it was agreed that a newsletter as such is still convenient.

Officers that finished their terms were thanked for their work. The meeting is adjourned at 11:45.

-- Submitted by Isabel Garcia-Monge, Secretary