MINUTES
RISS SCI I
24 August 2019
Athens, Greece

Members present: Christine Brown, Chair (Canada), Marydee Ojala, Secretary (USA), Laverne Page, Information Coordinator (USA), Jooza Al-Marri (Qatar), Jiang Hong (China), Laura Ballestra (Italy), Polly Boruff-Jones (USA), Kimberley Bigg (USA), Philippa Andreasson (Sweden), Fabiola Elena Rosales-Salinas (Mexico)

Apologies: Julie Biando Edwards (USA), Edwin Qobose (Botswana), Anne Reddacliff (Australia), Kathleen Kern (USA), Evalyn Lagos (Chile)

Absent: Jin Hongya (China)

Observers: Humberto Martinez Comacho (Mexico), Cheng Bing (China), D’aiey C Chepkuong (Kenya), Amani Alharrbi (Qatar), Ebele N. Anyaoku (Nigeria)

Welcome: Christine Brown called the meeting to order at 15.45 and welcomed attendees to the Standing Committee meeting

Introduction of SC members present and IFLA attendees present as observers.

Agenda: The agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Officer reports:

Christine reviewed the RISS activities over the past year. Our satellite meeting at the University of Malaya, planned in conjunction with the IT section, was very successful. Our open session during the congress, with its emphasis on interaction, was also very successful. The work on Guidelines is progressing nicely. During this Congress, RISS planned one open session in debate format and worked with the Sci/Tech section for a second open session. Phillipa attended an IFLA meeting in Hague on how to work on our section’s action plan. Following that, we had four Zoom meetings about action plan, in which almost all of our SC members took part. Our action plan is almost finished and we’ve received praise from the Division III chair.

Christine also reported on the Officers briefing: IFLA’s new strategic plan will launch on Monday. It was developed with lots of feedback. Action plan and funds request are due to headquarters by 15 October. Ideas about how to organize SC meeting were presented and discussed.

Marydee presented the final version of the minutes from the Kuala Lumpur SC meetings. The minutes were approved.
Laverne reported on her activities as Information Coordinator. She is looking for more content to put on our Facebook page, such as free training opportunities, news that is of interest, webcasts, and non-English, non-U.S. material. We should use more hashtags to generate more views.

Elections: Elected by acclamation were Kimberly Bugg as Chair and Marydee Ojala as secretary. Laverne Page will remain Information Coordinator, with assistance from Fabiola Elena Rosales-Salinas.

Division III: Adjoa Boateng, the incoming chair of Division III, introduced herself and explained her role in IFLA.

Open session in Athens: Christine and Marydee provided details of the RISS open session on Monday.

Joint session with Sci/Tech: Christine urged everyone to attend the joint session with Sci/Tech and AV on Thursday.

Action plan: We need to update and finalize. Phillipa will help with the infographic. Several SC members volunteered to help with translation—Jooza in Arabic, Elena in Spanish, Jiang Hong in Chinese.

Guidelines: Laura Ballestra provided an update on the guidelines project, which started in December 2017. The first draft was completed in June 2018 and she hopes for the next draft to be completed by December 2019, with a final version by April 2020. She asked for additional volunteers, particularly for Chapter 2, Tools and Technologies. A discussion about content to be included in Chapter 4 resulted in questioning whether that chapter was necessary.

Project proposals and updates:
  Webinars – Elena did one with attendees from Chile and Guatemala on reference and information services
  We should consider future webinars using Zoom.

Mid-Year meeting: A proposal to hold a mid-year meeting in Washington DC in March was presented by Marydee and Polly. After some discussion, the proposal was tabled until the 2nd SC meeting.

Christine adjourned the meeting at 17.40