MINUTES
RISS SCI II
27 August 2019
Athens, Greece

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

Apologies: Julie Biando Edwards (USA), Anne Reddacliff (Australia), Kathleen Kern (USA), Evalyn Lagos (Chile), Jiang Hong (China)

Absent: Jin Hongya (China)

Observers: Ying Lu (China). Evi Traubutha (Greece), Franziska Zenkel (Germany), Ebele N. Anyaoku (Nigeria), Elena Christodoulou (Greece), Goran Trailovic (Serbia), Veronica Kulczewski (Chile), K. N. Kittur (India)

Christine called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. 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.

Matters arising from SC I: It was decided to see if we could do a virtual mid-year meeting rather than a physical, in-person meeting

Handover to new officers: The final version of the annual report will be written by Christine and Kimberley. The action plan will be circulated not only to SC members but also to observers at our Athens SC meeting. We will put a copy on the RISS Basecamp that Christine set up.

Session planning for Dublin: Various ideas were put forth about potential sections with whom we might partner. Themes for the session revolved around professional development, privacy, integrity, ethics, new technologies, and multicultural aspects of reference. Skills training would be more appropriate for a satellite event. The conference theme is the IFLA strategic plan’s theme. Kimberley, Marydee, Phillipa, and Jin will head the team for planning the 2020 open session.

Satellite event in Ireland: Christine reported on possible venues in Dublin and in Limerick. Possible topics include discovery to access (tweaking discovery systems;
discovery systems that went wrong), linked data, structured and unstructured data, the user perspective and UX. RISS will partner with IT for the satellite event. Christine believes we can have library school involvement.

Possible project: Perhaps determining the professional needs of reference librarians in developing countries would make a possible future project. This would require a needs analysis, maybe a questionnaire. It would be a long-term project.

Division III Lightning Talks: Laverne reported on the Division III Lightening Talks session at which she and Christine presented on the reference interview as a multicultural service. They said that working within a multicultural context, 6 skills are required: listening, empathy, language, cultural knowledge, subject/content knowledge, and managing expectations.

Open session: The consensus was that the debate format for the RISS open session worked best with the second topic where the presenters had strong arguments both for and against and presented their positions so well that the final vote was almost a tie.

Future work: We should concentrate on recruiting more members to the Standing Committee and encourage people to become corresponding members.

Christine adjourned the meeting at 13:15.