IFLA Section for School Libraries and Resource Centers

Chair’s Report 2009-2010

2009 was an election year. Karen Usher was elected new Secretary and Treasurer, Yuriko Nakamura new Information Officer and Randi Lundvall new chair of the Section. We have been in touch by mail quite frequently during the period. Leslie Farmer has edited 2 Newsletters during the period.

In Milan 2009 we had a session on the theme of how school librarians can engage their students in and facilitate access to cultural heritage and cultural artefacts, both their own and in the rest of the world. Karen Usher chaired this session in a professional way and we heard interesting papers from Russia and USA (Leslie Farmer).

The theme of the joint session we are sharing with the Section for Libraries for Children and Young Adults in Gothenburg 2010 is on partnerships between Public Children’s Libraries and School Libraries. In April 7-10 2010 Karen Usher and I had a Mid Year Meeting where we joined the Section for Libraries for Children and Young Adults. It was a very good meeting where we could join forces on the planning of our joint session, exchange ideas on how to work within our two sections and also discuss the possibility of further joint work. The selection of the papers for our session had already been discussed and decided upon before this meeting. The participants from both sections doing this work were Ingrid Bon and Viviana Quinones, Chair and Secretary of the CYA Section, and Karen Usher, Leslie Farmer and Randi Lundvall from our Section.

In Gothenburg we are sponsoring the Satellite conference in Gothenburg Aug 9 The Future of School Libraries in a National and International Perspective together with The Swedish School Library associations. Unfortunately a post IFLA/IASL conference in Amsterdam Aug 16-17 Building Bridges for Children’s Access Rights has had to be cancelled due to not enough participants.

IFLA SLRC Section has planned a joint meeting with IASL in Gothenburg on Friday Aug 13. Karen Usher, Leslie Farmer and Randi Lundvall are the Section’s representatives, while Luisa Marquardt, Helle Barrett and Lourence Das are the representatives of IASL. Our two organizations’ future joint work is on the agenda.

The theme of collaboration seems to have been the red thread running through the work of this period and this is good. In February ENSIL IFLA CILIP SLA and IASL together signed a letter to the British Prime Minister on school libraries in Britain becoming statutory.

The Section has 61 members.

July 1 2010 Randi Lundvall, Chair