Science and Technology Libraries Section
Standing Committee Meeting

PENDING APPROVAL AT 2011 MEETING

August 10, 2010

Committee Member Attendees: Janet Webster, Chair (USA), James Andrews, Secretary (USA), Eva Tolonen, Treasurer (Finland), Maxine Schmidt, Information Coordinator (Via Skype; USA), Deva Reddy (USA), James Mullins (USA), Christine Stotzenbach (France), Marcel Brannemann (Germany).

Guest Attendees: Anthi Katsirikou (Greece), Shamin Renwick (Trinidad and Tobago),

Regrets: Xiwen Liu (China)

1. Agenda Approved

2. Introductions of Standing Committee members. Included short discussion of each person’s highlighted activities during the past year.

3. Minutes from 2009 final meeting approved.

4. Treasurer’s Report:
Eva Tolonen, Treasurer, reported on the balance of funds for the section (aprx. 360 Euros). There is a new policy in IFLA that sections will be reimbursed for expenses (rather than request funds at the time of purchase).

Members discussed exploring options to provide funds for speakers, such as paying for their dinners. Janet Webster agreed to check with IFLA Headquarters on this.

5. Chair’s Update:
Janet Webster, Chair, provided an update on recent activities. She noted some of what was covered at the Leadership Forum. Reminded us that conference badges should be worn at all times. Also, that we will have a chance to recommend papers
from our session for publications in IFLA Journal, or other IFLA publications. There are also other publications from IFLA that will be launched soon.

Conference Tracks are new this year, as a way to help attendees organize what they attend. Recommendations for Satellite conferences were discussed at the forum. Basically, these should be in support of the main conference (not always in agreement) and should be within a reasonable distance of the main conference and timed close to conference dates.

IFLA is going to be working more toward a Strategic Action Plan.

Elections are next year, and new committee members should be sought.

She reviewed plans to have dinner with speakers at a local restaurant.

We reviewed the status of corresponding members. Several were suggested at the 2009 conference in Milan but there was no follow through. Janet will check with IFLA Headquarters on the procedure for adding corresponding members.

6. 2010 Satellite Workshop
Anthi Katsirikou updated the group on the satellite program that was partially sponsored by our Section. There were 65 participants from 16 countries representing a good mix. She shared the program, which showed a variety of topics including copyright and open access issues related to the main conference theme. The attendees drafted a statement regarding copyright and open access that they hope will be shared with IFLA, and the Division Chair said he would assist. Other feedback from participants of the satellite meeting was discussed. Janet Webster suggested posting the abstracts on the website. Issues discussed concerned the nature of satellite conferences (cost, time, access). The information from the Professional Committee would rule out this type of satellite workshop in the future as it is too distant from the ILFA Conference. We felt it was successful and allowed people unable to attend the IFLA Conference an opportunity to participate.

7. Newsletter / website
Issues related to the Newsletter were discussed. It was noted by Deva Reddy that this should usually be twice a year (pre- and post-conference). How to contribute and what to contribute were covered, in order to find more substantive content. A few ideas included the E-science report that was shared with the group by Jim Mullins. Also, photos from events of interest are always welcome.

Janet noted she prefers more ongoing basis, but still cover the other pre- post-conference information. For the e-newsletter, we need to ensure it is sent to all Section members and that all can easily read it. Reddy suggested getting approval from standing committee before changing the timing and format.
We also discussed how to use the Section web site more effectively. Jim Mullin suggested focusing on different topics such as e-science, science information literacy, specific technical resources, gray lit kinds of sources, etc. Then we can send out reminders or summaries. The committee members liked this idea while agreeing with Jim Mulling that we need to focus on our strengths and provide specialized information. Janet will go to web-editor’s meeting for Maxine and look into other tools such as RSS feeds in different parts of site.

We discussed adding more and more useful content to site. We would like to add an RSS feed and a feedback form for the Section. Maxine will lead organizing the content on the site and calling for more from members.

8. 2011 Conference theme and our session.
A few of the topics that were discussed for next year’s meeting include: digital curation, challenges in science and technology libraries management, changing roles of STL librarians (what we do differently and how might we evaluate this?).

9. Agenda items for second Committee Meeting
   • Decide on session topic
   • Discuss satellite workshop for 2012 workshop
   • Consider our Strategic Action Plan that needs revision

Adjourned.
August 14, 2010 Meeting

Committee Member Attendees: Janet Webster, Chair (USA), Jim Andrews, Secretary (USA), Eva Tolonen, Treasurer (Finland), Maxine Schmidt, Information Coordinator (USA) Marcel Brannemann (Germany), James Mullins (USA), Deva E. Reddy (USA).

Guest Attendees: Sangeeta Narang (India), Sarah Akinola (Nigeria), Shamin Renwick (Trinidad and Tobago)

1. Call to order

2. Distribution of draft minutes from first meeting on August 10, 2010.

3. Review of actions items from First Committee meeting.
   - Janet Webster verified that we can pay for our guest speakers
   - She will send the membership list to the committee and to encourage new membership.
   - She will get corresponding member information from Reddy and others.
   - Regarding section communication, Janet reported that other sections have similar issues to our concerns with the web site and newsletter. This was apparent from the Web Editors meeting she attended. We may want to survey our users, to see what they would like in terms of newsletters, website, etc.

4. 2011 Conference theme and our session

The theme for the 2011 conference in Puerto Rico is “Libraries beyond libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for all.” Janet had sent out a brief query to the Section about our ideas for a session topic. Feedback included: ‘green libraries in this era”, challenges of changing roles and quality assurance for stakeholders. We discussed the ideas and decided that the new roles seemed to be of interest along with the challenges these pose. We will try to focus on the roles of science and technology libraries as this approach would be useful and that participants will leave with more tangible understanding. It was suggested to work with Health and Biosciences Libraries Section. Reddy reminded us to ensure the theme is international and provide value to colleagues in developing countries. We will give preference to those papers that demonstrate some solution that can be used by others or provide new inspirations. We want to focus on how can we be proactive as institutions and library groups. Shamin reminded us to publicize to the library schools in the region.

   - Jim and Jim will work on fine-tuning the theme on challenges and new roles.
• Janet will to talk with Health and Biosciences section for full collaboration

We then discussed the possibility of a stuffy tour in Puerto Rico. It is too late for a satellite meeting as we didn’t plan one.

5. 2012 Conference - Finland
We talked about a satellite workshop in 2012 but nobody seemed inspired. Eva mentioned possibility of half-day tour or fieldtrip to the technology hub hosted by the Aalto University. This would be a way to look at how design integrates with technology, and possibly explore the role of librarians in the collaboration.

• Eva will do more planning.

6. Strategic Plan
Janet distributed a handout that outlined IFLA’s current Strategic goals as well as some proposed for the Section.
• IFLA Goals
  o Enable our user communities to have equitable access to information
  o Build IFLA’s strategic capacity
  o Advance the profession through the development of standards and promotion of specialized knowledge
  o Represent the interests of IFLA members and their users worldwide

• STL Goals
  o Promote open access to scientific and technological information
    ▪ Develop resolution for PC in support of Open Access
    ▪ Document 2010 Conference Session and Satellite Conference
    ▪ Add OA resources and links to Section web page
  o Support science and technology libraries globally so they can serve their users successfully
    ▪ Develop web site content
  o Encourage science and technology libraries to respond to the changing information environment
    ▪ Develop session for 2011 conference on topic
    ▪ Explore creating report on value of libraries in the research and teaching enterprise of science and technology libraries

We discussed the IFLA goals as seeming to be rather top down and agreed to remain focused on our strengths. Jim Mullins suggested exploring how to provide better access to engineering journals to developing countries along the lines of the HINARI and AGORA projects.

• Janet will send out another draft of our goals and actions for the year.

Adjourned.