Letter from the Chair

Hello Social Sciences Libraries Section and Standing Committee Members!

It was great to see so many of you in Helsinki, Finland this past August at the IFLA WLIC 2012. There were so many of us in attendance this year that we believe we set a record for our section of the number of Social Science Libraries Standing Committee (SSSLC) members attending an annual congress. It was fantastic to have so many colleagues participating and contributing to the section’s work.

The 2012 WLIC was a success for the section not only because of the great numbers of committee members attending but also because of our fantastic program, our popular poster session, and the first meeting of our new special interest group (SIG), Religious Libraries in Dialogue (RELINDIAL).

Our program for the 2012 WLIC, “Empowering Library Users to Solve Problems: Our Stories,” was extremely successful. We had over 300 attendees who listened to six excellent papers by speakers from six different countries (see papers here http://conference.ifla.org/past/ifla78/session-203.htm).

The presenters discussed results of qualitative and quantitative assessments and provided examples of how libraries use these assessments to empower users and answer their needs. The papers were case studies that demonstrated the impact of gathering data and how it led to changed or improved services. One of the papers, “Libraries Supporting National Development Goals in Namibia,” by Ellen Namhila and Ritva Niskala, was chosen as one of the thirteen best papers presented at the conference and will be published in the IFLA Journal. Congratulations to Ellen and Ritva and to our section!

Additionally, the Social Science Libraries Section sponsored a poster session about the section and its work over the past few years. The poster was spearheaded by Standing Committee Member and Secretary, Maria Elena Dorta-Duque, with the help of the other section officers, and it was a great tool for sparking discussion with IFLA attendees about the section and its work. Thanks to Maria Elena for organizing the poster and thanks also to the standing committee members who helped man the poster session.

This WLIC was also the inaugural meeting of the new Social Science Libraries Section sponsored SIG, Religious Libraries in Dialogue, RELINDIAL. Odile Dupont, the SIG’s Convenor, did an amazing job organizing a fascinating program with speakers and a discussion about the future of the SIG.

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Congratulations to Odile — her hard work putting the SIG together has definitely paid off. We look forward to watching the SIG grow.

Other section work also continues. Standing Committee members Lynne Rudasill and Maria Elena Dorta-Duque continue work editing a volume of chapters related to the section’s 2011 satellite meeting in Havana, Cuba and we hope it will be published very soon. The SSLSC has begun planning its program for the 2013 WLIC. The program will be entitled, “Libraries and Social Movements: A Force for Change” and we are looking forward to receiving paper proposals for the program soon.

Please also remember that now is the time to recruit new members to the SSLSC for the period 2013-2017. The new member nomination process only occurs once every two years and the deadline for this year’s process is February 6, 2013. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the standing committee, please review http://www.ifla.org/officers-corner/nomination-election-process and contact me for more information.

I look forward to working with you all this year and to seeing many of you in Singapore in August 2013!

Liz Cooper
Chair, Social Science Libraries
Standing Committee

IFLA World Library and Information Congress 11-17 August 2012
78th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
Social Science Libraries Section

Empowering library users to solve problems: our stories

- Desk statistics under a microscope = improved library services by SUSAN GARDNER ARCHAMBAULT (Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California, USA)
- Was wir von unseren Nutzern lernen können – und wie by SEBASTIAN NIX (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung, Bibliothek und wissenschaftliche Information, Berlin, Germany)
- How to be competitive in the educational & cultural landscape: the challenge of the Carol I Central University Library in Bucharest, Romania - case study by MIREILLE RADOI (Carol I Central University Library, Bucharest, Romania)
- Libraries supporting national development goals in Namibia by ELLEN NAMHILA (University of Namibia, Windhoek, Namibia) and RITVA NISKALA (Namibia Library and Archives Service, Ministry of Education, Windhoek, Namibia)
- Empowering library users, establishing channel of communication for service quality expectations of trainers from government Administrative Training Institute (ATI) libraries in India MANOJ KULKARNI (Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YAHSADA), Pune, India) and NEELA J. DESHPANDE (University of Pune, Pune, India)
- Giving them what they need, more simply: empowering students through internet specific subject websites by DOUG SUAREZ (Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada)
Call for Papers

**Theme:** "Libraries and social movements: a force for change"

**Deadline for proposals:** 28 February 2013

[Translations: العربية | 中文 | Deutsch | Español | Français | Русский]

**Theme: Libraries and social movements: a force for change**

The IFLA Social Sciences Libraries Section is seeking proposals for papers to be presented at a two-hour program to be held at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Singapore in August 17-23, 2013.

We request submissions related to libraries and their roles working with communities to support, engage and document social movements. All aspects of this topic will be considered, e.g.

- how libraries support social movements,
- how they preserve/document social movements,
- how the ability to digitize has affected this role,
- how they provide access to information to support social change.

Examples of paper topics include papers that discuss libraries and their roles in the recent social movements in the Arab world, the Occupy movement around the world, local community work, and others. We prefer submissions that demonstrate real experiences/case studies – papers that tell a story. Papers presenting historical perspectives will also be considered.

The program will feature up to five presentations of 15-20 minutes each with additional time for questions.


**Language of the session:**

Papers should be in one of the IFLA official languages. The session will not include simultaneous interpretation, therefore the presentation and presentation slides should be in English.
Important Dates:

- **February 28, 2013**: Deadline to submit proposals/abstracts. Proposals should include:
  - title
  - abstract of no more than 300 words
  - brief biography for the speaker or speakers
  - Email contact address.

  **Send proposals via email to:**

  lizinatl@gmail.com

  Liz Cooper
  Chair, Social Sciences Libraries Section

- **March 18, 2013**: Proposals will be reviewed and successful candidates will be notified.

- **May 17, 2013**: Deadline for selected presenters to submit formal paper (for inclusion on the IFLA conference website and the Section’s website). Details regarding the format and length of the final paper will be sent to candidates whose abstracts are accepted.

Please note:

At least one of the paper’s authors must be present to deliver a summary of the paper during the program in Singapore. Abstracts should only be submitted with the understanding that the expenses of attending the Singapore conference will be the responsibility of the author(s)/presenter(s) of accepted papers.

All expenses, including registration for the conference, travel, accommodation etc., are the responsibility of the authors/presenters. No financial support can be provided by IFLA, but a special invitation can be issued to authors.

**Congress Attendance Grants**

The Singapore National Committee and IFLA have worked hard to secure funds for Conference Participation Grants. Up-to-date information will be available on our [Conference Participation Grants](#) webpage.

**Minutes of the 2012 Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Meetings can be found at IFLA SSLS website**
RELINDIAL Call for Papers

Theme: "Tools developed for a better sharing of religious information"

Deadline for proposals: 28 February 2013

[Translations: 中文 | Deutsch | Español | Français | Русский | العربية]

Theme: Tools developed for a better sharing of religious information

The IFLA SIG RELINDIAL is seeking proposals for papers to be presented at a two-hour program to be held at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Singapore, August 17-23, 2013.

We request submissions from libraries in charge of religious collections and more or less involved in the dialog of these collections with the world, especially in their location. The submissions requested should present the tools developed for a better sharing of religious information.

All aspects of this topic will be considered, e.g.

- Training for religious information literacy around the world. What about Asia?
- FRBR cataloguing and improvement of the religious literature study
- Religious vocabularies and the semantic web
- Open Access and religious information
- Special databases and full text
- Digitized heritage: World digital library, Gallica, Europeana, Hathi Trust, Google books... how to find the way in all this digitized material?
- The existing European common catalogues and how to give them a new life in a world of Google practisers

We prefer submissions that demonstrate real experiences/case studies – papers that tell a story. Papers presenting historical perspectives will also be considered.

The program will feature up to five presentations of 15-20 minutes each with additional time for questions.

Language of the session:
Papers should be in one of the IFLA official languages. The session will not include simultaneous interpretation, therefore the presentation and presentation slides should be in English. However, if necessary, English presentation slides with the presentation in one of the official languages of IFLA are welcome.

Important Dates:

- **February 28, 2013**: Deadline to submit proposals/abstracts. Proposals should include:
  - title
  - abstract of no more than 300 words
  - brief biography for the speaker or speakers
  - Email contact address.

  Send proposals via email to:
  o.dupont@icp.fr
  Odile Dupont
  Convenor of the IFLA SIG RELINDIAL

- **March 18, 2013**: Proposals will be reviewed and successful candidates will be notified.

- **May 17, 2013**: Deadline for selected presenters to submit formal paper (for inclusion on the IFLA conference website and the Section’s website). Details regarding the format and length of the final paper will be sent to candidates whose abstracts are accepted.

Please note:
At least one of the paper’s authors must be present to deliver a summary of the paper during the program in Singapore. Abstracts should only be submitted with the understanding that the expenses of attending the Singapore conference will be the responsibility of the author(s)/presenter(s) of accepted papers.

All expenses, including registration for the conference, travel, accommodation etc., are the responsibility of the authors/presenters. No financial support can be provided by IFLA, but a special invitation can be issued to authors.

**Congress Attendance Grants**: The Singapore National Committee and IFLA have worked hard to secure funds for Conference Participation Grants. Up-to-date information will be available on our Conference Participation Grants webpage.
RELINDIAL Inaugural Meeting at IFLA 2012 Helsinki Conference Session 110

Religious Libraries in Dialogue
Special Interest Group (RELINDIAL)

The first meeting of the new IFLA Social Science Libraries Section Special Interest Group (RELINDIAL) (Religious Libraries in Dialogue) was held 13 August 2012, 16:00 - 18:00 in Room 6. Those gathered conducted a business meeting and two lectures were presented, with Convenor, Odile Dupont (SSLSC Member) presiding.

The lectures included:
- IDEO serving intercultural Islamo-Christian dialogue
  Brother RENÉ-VINCENT DU GRANDLAUNAY o.p. (Institut Dominicain d'études orientales, Cairo, Egypt)
- GlobeTheoLib: online theological resources for education and ecumenical dialogue
  AMÉLIE VALLOTTON (Globethics, Geneva, Switzerland)

Odile Dupont
Convenor IFLA Social Science Libraries SIG RELINDIAL
Chargée de mission pour la promotion et les réseaux de bibliothèques
Présidente de l'Association des bibliothèques européennes de théologie BETH
Institut catholique de Paris
21 rue d'Assas
75270 Paris cedex 06
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Fax : 33(0)1 44 39 52 98
o.dupont@icp.fr

Just coming back home, I want to thank all of you for your support and help from the beginning of the idea of opening a new SIG within IFLA, devoted to libraries serving interfaith dialogue.

I will sum up the last developments that have been achieved during this 78th World Library and Information Congress of IFLA in Helsinki this year.

The most important, for sure, was our first meeting that gathered librarians from 5 continents, 16 countries, for a number of attendees of 36 persons.

Thanks to our speakers, Brother René-Vincent du Grandlaunay and Amélie Vallotton, the assembly has been
highly interested by the experience of the IDEO, Institut Dominicain du Caire, http://alkindi.ideo-cairo.org/, in Egypt, its history, the so important collection developed on the classical Islamic culture from the 7\textsuperscript{th} to the 17\textsuperscript{th} century, and the development of the software in FRBR to fulfill in a better way, the numerous links of the texts in this culture. This library offers to a lot of Muslims students, a real opportunity in living in depth the dialogue between Christians and Muslims.

The experience of GlobeTheoLib, http://www.globethics.net/gtl, was also appreciated: a tool devoted to face the informational and digital gap between the North and South, to help the contextual and theological search happen, to facilitate dialogue between religions.

Many contacts were taken and collaborations already opened:

Thanks to a contact with Myriam de La Rochefordière, sales manager of De Gruyter, during the last 77WLIC in Puerto-Rico, I was proposed to take an appointment with Dr. Alice Keller, Editorial Director, Library and Information Science & History. She received positively my proposal of editing a book about the libraries serving interfaith dialogue, and gave me the contact of Michael Heaney, editor of IFLA Publications Series, who agreed with the project.

We have now to gather the libraries ready to write a paper for one volume that will take place in the green IFLA series collection that gathers items showing how libraries change the world.

Chairs and Convenors of different sections and SIG of IFLA were contacted who showed interest in our activities and needs:

- Children and Young Adults: the collaboration will begin with an exchange of information between our two groups, and publishing one or more papers in De Gruyter’s future publication.

- Information and Literacy Section: contacts will be developed with Agnès Colnot, to see how to fulfill the interest of the RELINDIAL libraries for information literacy.

- Rare Books and Manuscripts: this brought forth a meeting between the Convenor of RELINDIAL and the Chair Raphaëlle Mouren, to see how to face different issues: religious digitized patrimony and the way of improving the access, the closing monasteries and how to save the collections, a congress programmed in Vancouver next year.

- Semantic Web SIG: the convenor Emmanuelle Bermes gave advise on how to help the integration of ACOLIT, indexation vocabulary developed by the ABEl: Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani — Italy, in the Semantic Web.

- Thanks to the Cfibd (Comité français international bibliothèques et documentation), a lot of African colleagues were asked to help find new members in Africa, involved in the interfaith dialogue for RELINDIAL.

The principle of a session during 79WLIC IFLA in Singapore and a satellite meeting during 80WLIC in Paris was approved, but a lot remains to be done before being able to send a call for papers. Your ideas will be welcome!

Thanks to you all. Read and perhaps see you soon, to strengthen the links between RELINDIAL members and facilitating our work serving dialogue!

Odile Dupont
Paris, 17\textsuperscript{th} August 2012
Social Science Libraries Section
Poster Session

EMPOWERING SOCIAL SCIENCE LIBRARIES
AND LIBRARIANS
IFLA 78th CONFERENCE, HELSINKI, AUGUST 2012

Maria Elena Dorta, Secretary of the Standing Committee was the impetus for our Poster Session, and was assisted in its completion by Chair, Elizabeth Cooper, and Information Coordinator, Wilda Newman. The poster highlighted the members, activities and accomplishments of the group. The poster can be seen on our website under past conference papers. Check it out!

A second Poster Session was contributed by
SSLC Member Mnubi-Mchombu, Namibia
Access to Human Rights Information in Namibia
by Ania Chiku Mnubi-Mchombu and Ivone Tjilale

Would you or your colleagues be interested in joining the IFLA Social Science Libraries Standing Committee?

Participating as a standing committee member is a great way to meet and learn from social science librarians from around the world. Please consider joining!

The call for nominations to join the committee for the August 2013-August 2017 term was issued in October 2012 and closes February 2013. The call for new members is issued every two years, so if you are interested, please apply. If you miss this year, begin now to get involved in the next election of members!

You can find more information about the nomination process on the IFLA website and you can contact me, Liz Cooper, Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Chair, now with any questions or for more information (lizinatl@gmail.com).

I can help you navigate the nomination process. Serving on the committee is a great way to get involved in IFLA! Contact me, Liz Cooper, Chair.
IFLA World Library and Information Congress
79th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

17-23 August 2013, Singapore

_Congress theme:_ Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities

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Plan Now for 2014 Congress in

IFLA WLIC 2014, Lyon, France
16-22 August

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**Future IFLA Congress**

2015 - Africa
2016 - North America
2017 - Europe
2018 - Latin America and Caribbean
2019 - Europe
My term as a Committee member will come to an end with this year’s conference. As Information Coordinator, Editor of the Social Science Libraries Section Newsletter, and responsible for communication these past eight years I have enjoyed working with the Committee, assisting with projects, and generally doing what the Chair and Secretary needed, as best I could. During this time we added a BLOG, flicker, Facebook, and LinkedIn social media tools and continue our Newsletter (with two issues per year) and Mailing List. I will miss the group and friends that I have made here but will continue to follow the Section and the good work that they do. I hope to continue work with IFLA in some other capacity and look forward to seeing all of you in Singapore for IFLA 2013.

Warm regards, Wilda Newman, Editor
Social Science Libraries Standing Committee
Members shown above. For contact information click here.