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Division IV – Support of the Profession – Leadership Meeting
www.ifla.org/support-of-the-profession

Minutes of the meeting held in Wrocław, Poland
Sunday 20 August 2017, 08.30-10.00, Conference Room D

Attendance:

Division IV

Perry Moree Outgoing Chair Division IV p.moree@zeeuwsebibliotek.nl NETHERLANDS
Antonia Arahova Incoming Chair Division IV tonia.arahova@gmail.com GREECE
Gillian Hallam Secretary Division IV g.hallam@qut.edu.au AUSTRALIA

Continuing Professional Development & Workplace Learning

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Education and Training

Saif Al Jabri Co-Chair SET saljabri@gmail.com OMAN
Kendra Albright Co-Chair SET kalbrig7@kent.edu USA
Susmita Chakraborty Secretary SET sclis.India@gmail.com INDIA
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Library Buildings and Equipment

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Library Theory and Research

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Management and Marketing

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Management of Library Associations

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Statistics and Evaluation

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Library History SIG

Kerry Smith Convenor LH SIG kerrylib@westnet.com.au AUSTRALIA

New Professionals SIG

Antoine Torrens Information Coordinator NPSIG antoine.torrens@hotmail.fr FRANCE

Women, Information and Libraries SIG

Mathilde Koskas Co-Convenor WIL mathilde.koskas@bnf.fr FRANCE

Evviva Weinraub Co-Convenor WIL evviva.weinraub@northwestern.edu USA

LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG

Felipe Martinez-Arellano Outgoing Convenor EDC felipe@unam.mx MEXICO

Elham Sayyad Abdi Convenor EDC e.sayyadabdi@qut.edu.au AUSTRALIA

E-metrics SIG

n/a

1. Opening and confirmation of the agenda

The meeting was opened at 08.35am. The agenda was confirmed for the meeting.

2. Who we are

Perry Moree introduced himself as Chair of Division IV, and Gillian Hallam, as Secretary.

3. Minutes of the Division IV Leadership Meeting held in Columbus, OH, USA on 14 August 2016

The draft minutes of the 2016 meeting were approved. These minutes will be uploaded to the Division IV website.

4. Division IV Annual Report 2016

The Chair presented the Division IV Annual Report, with the information extracted from a range of sources relating to the Sections and SIGs. It was noted that not all Section documents were available online: each Section was therefore asked to check their websites to ensure that all relevant documents, including Action Plans, Annual Reports and Newsletters, were (a) sent to Joanne Yeomans at IFLA HQ and (b) uploaded to the IFLA website by the Information Coordinator.

There had been a slight drop in total membership of Division IV: 2015 – 803 members, 2016 – 777 members. The Chair had sourced more current data from IFLA HQ, which indicated an upward trend: June 2017 – 794 members. All the Sections and SIGs were encouraged to determine how they might help increase their own membership, and thereby strengthen the Division.

As at the 2016 meeting, it was noted that some Sections and SIGS (eg CPDWL, SET and NPSIG) worked with the model of Co-Chairs and Co-Information Coordinators. It was acknowledged that the workload for the Sections and SIGs had increased significantly over the past 12 months and that there was considerable professional value in sharing the tasks and stimulating discussion and dialogue through the co-chair model. In the changing IFLA environment, the active involvement of all members of the standing committees was being encouraged; it seemed counter-productive for IFLA HQ to limit the potential for meaningful collaboration by not recognising the co-chair model. Concerns were therefore expressed about the ongoing resistance to this model of practice at IFLA

HQ and that there should be greater transparency, particularly at a time where the Secretary General was promoting “collaboration and inclusiveness”. The Chair highlighted that as a new PC was being convened, there would be opportunities for the issue to be reviewed with fresh eyes at the first PC meeting in December 2017.

The Chair noted that three of the Sections had held mid-term meetings (LBE, M&M & MLAS) during the past year. All Sections were encouraged to consider the best way to engage with their standing committee, whether as a physical or virtual meeting. The importance of active participation in the standing committee was discussed: as a guideline, inactive members should be removed where there had been two years of non-attendance at meetings and no responses to emails.

The period for reporting through the annual reports was considered: as the ‘IFLA year’ was aligned with the WLIC (i.e. August-August), the annual reports should reflect this, rather than the calendar year.

Actions:

- a. All Sections and SIGs to ensure that their documents are finalised by 31 October 2017**
- b. All Sections and SIGs to plan for a mid-year meeting (physical or virtual, including webinar activities)**
- c. Make a request through the Professional Committee to allow for Co-Chairs to be recognised, with the roles listed on the sections’ websites**

5. Report from Division Chair; News from the Professional Committee and Governing Board; Introduction of the new Division IV Chair

The Chair reported on the highlights from the Professional Committee activities, where the focus has been on IFLA’s Global Vision. The winds of change within IFLA also extend to the new GB and PC. One unfinished discussion related to the terms of office for the PC, with a view to possibly moving from 2-year terms to 4-year terms. If the terms did change, then this would impact on the Division Chairs as well.

The Chair reported that he was very proud of Division IV with the quality of the activities of all the Sections and SIGs, all with the important role of providing “Support for the Profession”.

Antonia Arahova was introduced to the meeting: she provided an overview of her career and involvement with IFLA extending over 17 years. She was the outgoing Secretary of the Management and Marketing standing committee and was honoured to be stepping into the role of Chair of Division IV. Her approach as Chair would be to provide an open, consultative leadership style. Her ideas for the Division included:

- Planning to schedule a mid-term meeting of the Division
- Encouraging collaboration between the Sections and SIGs, beyond the WLIC sessions
- Opening the Division’s activities to welcome proposals from all members of the standing committees, rather than limiting them to the officers of the Sections and SIGs
- Scheduling periodic online meetings via Skype or Zoom, e.g. after the GB meetings and after the President’s meeting in Barcelona (April 2018)
- Encouraging questions, comments and recommendations from the whole Division IV community, with the commitment to take all relevant issues to the PC and/or GB.

Tonia reiterated her interest in supporting collaboration and open dialogue as the Chair of Division IV. She presented Perry with a small gift as an expression of appreciation for his work as Chair over the past two years.

6. Activities of Division IV sections and SIGs in Wrocław

The Chair had prepared a document which collated and summarised the various activities that the Sections and SIGs would be involved in at the WLIC. The variety and richness of the activities and interactions were gratefully acknowledged; it was also recommended that the Satellite events and project work be added to this document.

Actions:

- a. Add further details of the activities of the Sections and SIGs to the Activities of Division IV Sections and SIGs in Wrocław, 2017.**

7. Short update by section chairs and convenors of SIGs

Each section and SIG reviewed the key activities and highlights from the past year.

Continuing Professional Development & Workplace Learning

- Continued focus on the CPDWL Guidelines: Principles and Best Practices
 - Session on the Guidelines (see below)
 - Posters 179 and 180: posters on the Guidelines in English, Polish, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Norwegian, Italian, Japanese. Serbian in preparation. Thanks extended to the IFLA community for the translation work.
- Plans to develop a coaching/mentoring program to support new speakers and contributors to IFLA WLICs.
- In 2016, two members were removed from the standing committee.
- WLIC Session 117 (with SET and School Libraries): Bridging the gap from school to library: best practices for planning, participation and assessment of internships, practicums, field experiences and mentorships in LIS education.
- WLIC Session 164: Staff development and CPDWL Guidelines: Rapid fires cases and discussion.
- WLIC Session 200 (with KM and Library and Research Services for Parliaments): New librarians for new times: Continuous learning to become change agents in a changing world.
- WLIC Session 234 (with S&E): The accidental assessment librarian: Building data analysts in academic and public libraries.
- Section meetings have moved to participatory, interactive activities to build a dynamic IFLA unit.
- The Section hosted webinars throughout the year, in conjunction with NPSIG, which serve as conference events reaching out to the global library community.
- Communication: newsletter twice a year, a Facebook site (1,800+ friends), and the blog.

Education & Training

- Project with a Working Group (SET, LTR and EDC SIG) led by Clara Chu and Jayarani Raju, 'Building Strong LIS Education'. A survey had been conducted with over 700 responses from

140 countries. Data analysis work was currently under way, and a report will be written. The team was also encouraged to submit a paper for publication in the IFLA Journal.

- WLIC Session 235 (with LTR and EDC SIG): Building strong LIS education: Work in progress and critical engagement.
- WLIC Session 117 (with CPDWL and School Libraries): Bridging the gap from school to library: best practices for planning, participation and assessment of internships, practicums, field experiences and mentorships in LIS education.
- Communication: the newsletter twice a year.

Library Buildings & Equipment

- The mid-year seminar was held in Munich, Germany: Storage! The last frontier. Options, best practices and collaborations, held on 23 February 2017.
- WLIC Session 207 (with M&M): Branding, bridging, building: Telling and selling the space story.
- A satellite event was planned for 2018, to be held in Singapore, hosted by Singapore Management University, in collaboration with Public Libraries and Academic and Research Libraries. The topic would be 'changing libraries and the impact on design'.
- Communication: The focus for the year had been on outreach via social media, particularly through the visual medium, as appropriate for library design, with integration between the different platforms. 500 people had liked the Facebook page; a blog was launched 9 months ago, attracting 2,500 visitors and over 4,000 views; Flickr account; Twitter account.

Library Theory and Research

- WLIC Session 235 (with LTR and EDC SIG): Building strong LIS education: Work in progress and critical engagement.
- WLIC Session 187 (with NPSIG): Engaged communities – transforming the librarian role.
- Satellite meeting with Preservation and Conservation and Information Technology: Data curators' roles: International and interdisciplinary perspectives, Warsaw, 16-17 August 2017. This event fed into work planned for 2018 to continue the collaboration to develop guidelines relating to the roles and responsibilities of data curators.
- LTR has developed a project proposal with Preservation and Conservation to examine the scope of the many LIS competency frameworks. The application for project funding had not been accepted and there were some problems with email communication.
 - **Action: the Chair to investigate and advise the LTR officers of the situation**
- For the past two years, the Section had organised the De Gruyter Saur / IFLA Research Paper Award. It had been decided to not offer the award in 2017, but it would be revived in 2018. As there were concerns about the confusion resulting from the Research Paper Award and the Student Paper Award, discussions were to be held with De Gruyter Saur to potentially merge the two awards.
 - **Action: LTR and SET to hold discussions with De Gruyter Saur regarding the Research Paper Award and the Student Paper Award**
- Communication: newsletter, blog, Twitter.

Management and Marketing

- The mid-term meeting was held in Vilnius, hosted by the National Library of Lithuania, 22-24 February 2017.

- A very successful satellite event in collaboration with Public Libraries had been held in Bergen, Norway, 16-17 August 2017: Managing change: Library transitions – moving into the future. Best practices from around the world. There were 130 participants, with one third coming from outside of Norway.
- It had been decided that after running a satellite event 3 years in a row, the Section would not schedule an event for 2018.
- IFLA BibLibre International Marketing Award 2017: an excellent response to the call attracting 65 submissions. Three winners selected, plus the top ten projects.
- WLIC Session 197: Presentation of the IFLA BibLibre International Marketing Award 2017.
- A project had commenced to evaluate the impact of the award, from the perspectives of both the winners and the applicants in general.
- WLIC Session 207 (with M&M): Branding, bridging, building: Telling and selling the space story.

Management of Library Associations

- It was reported that Michael Dowling was the incoming Chair of MLAS.
- A mid-term meeting had been held in Athens, 1 April 2017, prior to the IFLA Global Vision meetings hosted by the National Library of Greece.
- The standing committee was using Zoom for their virtual meetings.
- WLIC Session 140: Library associations in solidarity with civil society.

Statistics and Evaluation

- The Section was involved in a consulting role in the IFLA World Map of Libraries project. Members of the standing committee had contributed very productively to two days of in-depth discussion at McGill University, Montreal.
- WLIC Session 234 (with CPDWL): The accidental assessment librarian: Building data analysts in academic and public libraries. There were to be four speakers, followed by discussion time.

Library History SIG

- The convenor, Kerry Smith, declared that she continued as “a committee of one”, but was seeking further assistance and support. Gratitude was extended to Anup Kumar who helped with the website – Kerry and Anup have not yet met! The website would be updated to ensure that all relevant documents for the SIG were available.
- WLIC Session 83: Libraries in times of crisis: Historical perspectives. Twenty six abstracts were received, with five selected for the WLIC session.
- Planning a program for the WLIC in Kuala Lumpur in 2018 was already underway.

New Professionals SIG

- Vesna Vuksan and Andrés Reinoso were the new Co-Convenors for the SIG, with Antoine Torrens and Katia Shklyaras Co-Information Coordinators. Sadly for the SIG, Maria Violeta Bertolini had been recruited by IFLA HQ.
- The NPSIG had engaged librarians in a couple of activities in Wrocław: a bicycle tour of the city with visits to a number of libraries, and a flash mob in the city centre, as a new experiment, to wake the community up to the fact that librarians are here in Wrocław, not just at the conference centre.

- Plans were underway to hold a two-day event in France, with the IFLA President, Gloria Pérez-Salmerón as guest of honour. NPSIG will partner with CFBID, ENSSIB (Lyon) and BULAC (Paris) for the event, to be held on 11-12 January 2018.
- WLIC Session 187 (with LTR): Engaged communities – transforming the librarian role.
- WLIC Session 212 (with Division III – Library Services): Disruptions in library services: Addressing challenges, finding solutions.

Women, Information and Libraries SIG

- The workload for the SIG had become a challenge for a single convenor: plans were in place to introduce a new leadership strategy with Co-Convenors and Co-Information Coordinators.
- The convenor had participated in an interview with the NPSIG, with the interview posted to the NPSIG blog (February 2017) – this was a valuable activity for both WIL SIG and NPSIG.
- Communication initiatives had been a strong focus during the year, particularly with Facebook and Twitter
- A satellite meeting had been held in Bratislava on 16 August 2017, with the theme LIS professionals supporting women living in conflict situations. The meeting stimulated very good discussion, which they hope to follow up on via the blog. The organisers had received excellent feedback about the event.
- Plans were underway to collaborate with 2, 3 or 4 other professional units to run a satellite meeting in 2018.
- WLIC Session 124: Women, open technology and culture.
- WLIC Session 165: Solidarity in action: How we answer the call. This session will build on discussions commenced in 2016. Loida would make a short presentation, with subsequent table discussions arranged by the different IFLA official languages.

Education in Developing Countries SIG

- The SIG had been involved with SET and LTR in the Building Strong LIS Education survey (see SET above). This work would be ongoing.
- WLIC Session 235 (with SET and LTR): Building strong LIS education: Work in progress and critical engagement.

E-metrics SIG

- No report was provided.

8. Short update on current and forthcoming Division IV projects

Discussed by the sections under Agenda Item 7.

9. Any other business

Election of Secretary, Division IV

Gillian Hallam was nominated for the role of Secretary, Division IV, to support the Chair, Tonia Arahova. With no additional nominations, Gillian was elected to the position for the period of 2 years (2017-2019).

IFLA Global Library and Information Science: A Textbook for Students and Educators

Rebecca B Vargha advised that the second edition of this very popular IFLA textbook would be published within a few months. Rebecca is an author of one of the chapters on libraries in North America. Elham Sayyad Abdi was introduced as the editor for the Australian section of the book.

Close

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for contributing to such a vibrant Division of IFLA.

The meeting closed at 10:00 am.