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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 Columbus, OH, USA
Sunday 14 August 2016, 08.30-10.00, Room C26

Attendance:

Division IV

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Education and Training

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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 kerrylib@westnet.com.au AUSTRALIA

New Professionals SIG

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Women, Information and Libraries SIG

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LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG

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FAIFE

Brent Roe (attending for the FAIFE Chair) broe@laurentian.ca CANADA

E-metrics SIG

n/a

Observer: Claudio Cuevas S., Chilean Library Association, ccuevas@bcn.cl ccuevasSR@gmail.com

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

The meeting participants all introduced themselves briefly to indicate the section they represented and their role. Perry, as Chair, and Gillian, as Secretary of Division IV, introduced themselves.

3. Minutes of the Division IV Leadership Meeting held in Cape Town, 16 August 2015

The draft minutes of the 2015 meeting were approved. These minutes will be uploaded to the Division IV website.

4. Division IV Annual Report 2015

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: each section was asked to check their websites to ensure that all relevant documents, including Action Plans, Annual Reports and Newsletters, were sent to Joanne Yeomans at IFLA HQ and uploaded to the IFLA website. See also Agenda Item 8.

It was agreed that communication with members need not be limited to formal newsletters: keeping a regular blog was a good way to keep in touch with and engage with members.

The Chair noted that three of the sections had held mid-term meetings (LBE, M&M & MLAS). All sections were encouraged to consider the best way to have some of formal SC communication early in the new year, whether as physical or virtual meeting.

There was evidence of strong collaboration amongst and across the sections and SIGs, which was very valuable. Collaboration was certainly encouraged, especially in the planning of open sessions for the 2017 WLIC.

It was noted that some Sections (eg CPDWL and SET) worked with the model of Co-Chairs. However, as the structure of the Standing Committee webpages allowed for only a single Chair, it was hoped that changes could be made to reflect the reality of practice in many sections. Catharina Isberg had sent an email about this to IFLA HQ in December 2015, but no response had been received.

Actions:

- a. **All Sections and SIGs to ensure that their documents are finalised by 30 September 2016.**
- b. **All Sections and SIGs to plan for a mid-year meeting (physical or virtual, including webinar activities).**
- c. **Make a request to IFLA HQ to allow for Co-Chairs to be listed on the sections' websites**

5. Report from Division Chair; News from the Professional Committee and Governing Board

The Chair reported on the highlights from the Professional Committee's Officer's Forum held on Saturday, 13 August 2016. The new Secretary-General, Gerald Leitner, had addressed this meeting and shared his vision for IFLA and outlined some of the new initiatives which would encourage a more participatory, collaborative organisation, specifically the International Advocacy Programme (IAP) and the proposal for IFLA to host a global meeting of key IFLA officers in 2017 and 2018.

6. Activities of Division IV sections and SIGs in Columbus OH

A document was distributed 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.

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

- Completion and publication of the CPDWL Guidelines: Principles and Best Practices
 - Extensive document (86p.)
 - Summary document (4p.)
 - Focus on the translation of the 4-page summary document into the official IFLA languages.
- WLIC Session 109: Guidelines for Continuing Professional Development: Principles and Best Practices. A workshop to increase awareness of and engagement with the Guidelines.
- WLIC Session 124 (with SET and ITS): All about E-learning: towards connection, collaboration and community
- WLIC Session 204 (with KM and Library and Research Services for Parliaments): Knowledge Café: Continuous learning in libraries and their communities
- Section meetings: move to participatory, interactive activities to build a dynamic IFLA unit.
- Strong focus on project activities throughout the year, beyond the WLIC meetings.
- The section hosted webinars throughout the year, 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

- The LIS Education Guidelines were finalised in 2012; it was felt that there was a lot of changes which needed to be incorporated into a new edition.
- Satellite meeting with LTR and EDC had focused on the assessment of the quality of LIS programs, but it was felt that there was no easy way forward. It would be valuable to have a 'Building Strong LIS Education' programme, along the lines of the BSLA programme.
- SET and LTR had scheduled a project meeting during the WLIC to consider future strategies for quality assurance in LIS education
- WLIC Session 124 (with CPDWL and ITS): All about E-learning: towards connection, collaboration and community
- Book launch at WLIC: *Educating the profession: 40 years of the IFLA Section for Education and Training*, the proceedings of a forum held in 2014.
- Discussions were being held to identify and engage a new sponsor for the IFLA LIS Student Paper Award for 2017.
- Communication: the newsletter twice a year.

Library Buildings & Equipment

- A busy and active year with new officers
- The mid-year meeting was held in Dublin, Ireland, with an associated seminar for Irish librarians, to generate international perspectives on library spaces
- A 2-day satellite event in Chicago at the Illinois Institute of Technology (designed by Mies van der Rohe), with excellent support from sponsors. Around 90 participants enjoyed an excellent range of speakers, plus a workshop with architects focusing on the different persona perspectives of typical groups of library users.
- WLIC Session 105: What comes after 'Third Place'? Visionary libraries – spaces and users
- Three LBE publications being launched at the WLIC:
 - *Space and collections earning their keep: transformation, technologies, retooling*
 - *High quality design on a low budget: New library buildings*
 - *Post-occupancy evaluation of library buildings*
- Communication: a new Facebook site, Twitter account, and a monthly blog. A strong focus on visual communication activities, promoting exciting library design around the world. Encouraging two-way communication with SC members and the wider library community.
- The section already has a commitment to hold an open session at the WLIC 2017 with Management and Marketing.

Library Theory and Research

- Satellite meeting with SET and EDC had focused on the assessment of the quality of LIS programs, but it was felt that there was no easy way forward. It would be valuable to have a 'Building Strong LIS Education' programme, along the lines of the BSLA programme.
- LTR and SET had scheduled a project meeting during the WLIC to consider future strategies for quality assurance in LIS education.
- The challenges of the immense diversity in LIS education across the different regions and countries of IFLA were acknowledged. It was hoped that there would be constructive, collaborative dialogue across the various stakeholders, including employers and

practitioners, and open to all sections to be involved. A project proposal has been started to be prepared, involving SET, CPDWL, SIG LIS education in developing countries, to develop a registry of competency framework for the profession. Once the first draft of the project proposal had been prepared it would be sent to the Chair of Division IV.

- De Gruyter Saur / IFLA Research Paper Award 2016: the winning paper had been selected, written by Getaneh Alemu a PhD student discussing metadata enrichment involving library users
- WLIC Session 079: Participatory projects in libraries. Connecting collaborative communities.
- Discussions were being held with IFLA HQ with regard to open access publishing in the IFLA Library – eg papers presented at the WLIC – and the possibility of publishing the material in a journal with copyright arrangements. Anna Maria Tamaro would send an email to the Chair of Division IV to outline the problems in order to seek an effective resolution of the issue.

Management and Marketing

- The mid-year meeting was held in Madrid. It was valuable to hold it in a Business School venue which allowed lots of engagement with the faculty, giving an interesting dimension to the discussions on management and marketing beyond the immediate library context.
- IFLA BibLibre International Marketing Award 2016: an excellent response with 71 submissions, from 24 countries on 5 continents. The jury had a big task before them, but selected the three winners. The prize money provided stipends for two of the winners to attend IFLA; the third winner was also able to fund their attendance. A video had been made, featuring the top ten projects: <https://storify.com/Bpi/winner-top-3-and-top-10-for-the-ifla-biblibre-inte#publicize>
- WLIC Session 180: What makes a great marketing initiative in a library? Presentation of the IFLA BibLibre International Marketing Award 2016.
- A project had commenced to evaluate the impact of the award, with the goal of preparing a book of case studies about the different ways of advertising and marketing libraries, and library programs and services.
- A very successful satellite event had been held in Toronto: Managing human resources in the library and information context. How do we want to work tomorrow? <http://biblio.uottawa.ca/ext/ifla/index.php/en/index.html>. The papers would be published.

Management of Library Associations

- The main focus for the section has been capacity building: 80 countries had been involved in the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) program, assisting library associations to perform well. Two participants in the BSLA program had joined the Standing Committee, which was a very good outcome for all.
- The mid-term meeting was held in Panama, in conjunction with a two-day BSLA workshop for LAC and a two-day conference, with activities stretching from Monday-Friday. Sixty library associations participated in these activities, with a good mix of experienced and novice attendees.
- WLIC Session 188: Library associations: A call to action. National advocacy and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations).

- The future focus for the section would extend further into the advocacy arena, to work with library associations in the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.
- Communication: work was underway to improve communication within and beyond the section.

Statistics and Evaluation

- The section had been invited to be involved in an advisory role in the forthcoming IFLA Library Map project. An extra SC meeting was being held during the WLIC to discuss this.
- A professional development event was held before the WLIC, hosted by the State Library of Ohio, the School of LIS at Kent State University and the School of LIS at the University of North Carolina. The topic was strategic assessment and communication: what success looks like for our libraries. <https://www.kent.edu/slis/news/strategic-assessment-and-communication>
- A virtual mid-term meeting was being planned to build a high quality program for the WLIC 2017 in Poland.

Library History SIG

- The convenor, Kerry Smith, declared that she was “a committee of one”.
- WLIC Session 192: Libraries and immigrants – historical perspectives.
- Planning for WLIC 2017 in Poland – to focus on libraries in times of crisis, with call for papers to be sent, and it is hoped there will be responses from a range of EU and other European countries

New Professionals SIG

- The new leadership team had met online, including Maria Violeta Bertolini (Convenor), Milan Vaslijević (Co-Convenor), Antoine Torrens (Information Coordinator) and Katia Shklyar (Information Co-Coordinator).
- Recordings of the NPSIG virtual meetings were available online <https://npsig.wordpress.com/archive/virtual-npsig-business-meetings-2/>
- The webinars offered by NPSIG and CPDWL were offered to the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking LIS communities across the world, with an archive of recordings available online.
- NPSIG’s 2-day IFLA Camp was held at OCLC prior to the WLIC, with the usual un-conference format.
- WLIC Session 188: Failing successfully in a librarian’s career: is a setback an opportunity to grow, or just an unwelcome incident on the road to success? The call for papers was disseminated in nine languages.
- NPSIG was eager to liaise with CPDWL regarding the translation of the CPD Guidelines.
- The NPSIG had a very strong communications strategy, involving virtual meetings, a Wordpress website, an active blog, Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat.

Women, Information and Libraries SIG

- It was important to raise awareness about the SIG and increase membership.
- A satellite event was held in partnership with the Information Technology section at the Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. The topic was Women and library technology: Empowering women’s participation in open technology and culture.

- WLIC Session 224: Roundtable discussion on the activities of and future plans for the SIG. It was acknowledged that it was important to grow the SIG and to involve more people. The NPSIG was an excellent model for the SIG.
- The planning for a satellite meeting prior to the WLIC in Poland on the theme of women in conflict was in its early stages. The SIG was hoping to collaborate with other sections and to determine the best location for the event.

Education in Developing Countries SIG

- Satellite meeting with SET and LTR had focused on the assessment of the quality of LIS programs, ensuring the issues in Africa, Asia and Latin America were discussed.
- WLIC Session 152: Connections and collaboration among LIS schools from developing countries. The program would include presentations by LIS educators from Africa, Asia, Saudi Arabia and India, with simultaneous translation into seven languages.
- Communication for the SIG was through the mailing list LIS-L and the SET Bulletin.

E-metrics SIG

- Due to the inability of the convenor of the E-metrics SIG to attend the WLIC, no report was provided.

8. Action Plans and Annual Reports as webpages

The Chair referred to an email from Louis Takás, IFLA Communications Officer, dated 29 April 2016, outlining the preferred requirements for the sections' documents, including Action Plans and Annual Reports. A quick audit of the section's webpages highlighted the need for many sections to ensure that all documentation on the website was current, so the officers of each section were once again reminded to review their webpages (see also Agenda Item 4).

9. Short update on current Division IV projects

Discussed by the sections under Agenda Item 7.

10. Forthcoming Division IV projects

Discussed by the sections under Agenda Item 7.

11. Any other business

Commitment of standing committee members

Concerns were expressed about the challenges of working with the distributed committee model of IFLA, in particular the problems when standing committee members did not respond to emails. It was felt that Chairs and Secretaries of the Standing Committees and Convenors of the SIGs should be very clear about the expectations for communication about SC matters.

The discussion moved to the problem of inactive members, with cases cited of some SC members not attending the WLIC during their term. It was recommended that after two years of non-attendance at the WLIC and no engagement with or support for the activities of the section, the Chair should issue a call for explanation, providing a warning about the effective termination

of their role on the Standing Committee if they remain inactive. It was pointed out that due consideration should be given to language issues, extenuating circumstances etc, which may impact on a person's immediate situation at a given point in time. A number of representatives at the meeting stressed the imperative for ensuring that there was a quorum at the SC meetings held at the WLIC.

Online platform for collaboration

The value of a suitable online platform for collaboration was discussed. While some sections were using Basecamp as a collaborative tool, it was felt that there some shortcomings, particularly in terms of managing projects within and across the different sections. The Chair stated that he would discuss this issue at the Professional Committee meeting.

Action:

- a. The Chair to raise the issue of appropriate software platforms for collaboration at the Professional Committee meeting**

Division IV elections in 2017

The meeting was reminded that as the tenure of the Division Chairs and Secretaries was for two years, elections would be held for a new Chair and Secretary for Division IV at the WLIC in 2017. Those attending the meeting were encouraged to consider nominating for the roles.

Close

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and sharing the information about the work of the sections so fully. It was evident that the Division was a very active one within IFLA and the full program at the WLIC and associated satellite events was a tribute to all involved. He wished everyone a very productive time at the conference.

The meeting closed at 10:15am.