



Division IV – Support of the Profession – Mid-Year Meeting

www.ifla.org/support-of-the-profession

Minutes of the Mid-Year Meeting held in Zoom

Tuesday 12 January 2021

Attendance:

Division IV

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Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning

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Education and Training

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Library Theory and Research

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Management & Marketing

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Management of Library Associations

Hella Klauser Secretary MLAS klauser@bibliotheksverband.de GERMANY

Statistics and evaluation

Bella Gerlich Chair S&E bella.gerlich@goucher.edu USA

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Library History SIG

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New Professionals Special Interest Group

Magdalena Gomułka NPSIG mgomulka@gmail.com Poland

1. Opening and confirmation of the agenda

The meeting was opened at 7:00 am CEST. Catharina informed officers that this meeting is being recorded. The link to the recording will be provided to professional units. Those officers who were not able to attend the meeting due to time zones' difference would have an opportunity to watch the video and get experience shared by others at the meeting. The recording will be available on Google Drive for 2 weeks and after that it will be deleted.

The following Agenda was confirmed for the meeting:

- Information from the Division Chair
- Inspirational presentation
 - a. by Ulrike Lang, CPDWL
Presentation on the CPDWL “meet up” series. <https://www.ifla.org/node/93391>
 - b. by Magdalena Gomułka, NPSIG
The internal work and importance of collaboration in the webinar series “New Librarians- Global Connection: Best Practices, Models and Recommendations”
- Exchange of ideas and experience, All units prepare:
 - How do your unit keep everyone within the standing committee engaged in the work?
 - How are you working in new ways when all of the meetings and work is virtual?
 - What has worked and what didn’t work? Give an example on a successful initiative and also an unsuccessful initiative from which we can learn.
- End of meeting

2. Information from the Division Chair

Catharina welcomed officers at the first meeting in 2021. She thanked all professional units that contributed into IFLA activities in 2020.

Then she informed officers on the following issues:

Objective 1: Align work of the Professional Units with the IFLA strategy 2021 Action Plans and 2020 Annual Reports

The Professional Committee considered the data on Action Plans and Annual Reports that had been received.

The units clearly connect proposed activities with the IFLA Strategic Directions and Key Initiatives.

A summary of plans and reports is posted to the Officers Basecamp
<https://3.basecamp.com/3833672/buckets/4857674/vaults/3164058285>

Professional Unit Updates:

An update on the showcasing of Units’ work aligned to the IFLA Strategy was provided. 11 Units have been featured so far.

Also the PC got an overview of Virtual Events hosted by the Professional Units. Please make sure that you use the virtual event calendar in Basecamp to make your events visible.

<https://3.basecamp.com/3833672/projects/17482215>

2020 Dynamic Unit and Impact Award (DUIA)

The Dynamic Unit and Impact Award winners for 2020 have been confirmed by the Professional Committee and will be announced in early February 2021.

Objective 2: Lead the IFLA Professional Units Governance Review

The Steering Committee and Parliamentarian continue their work on pulling together the Rules of Procedure and the Statutes into clear documents for use by members and volunteers.

Further decisions will be made regarding the Regional structure and Regional Council details, which are currently being discussed.

An expanded working group will meet to finalise decisions to be sent to the Governing Board at the end of January 2021.

In February there is an extraordinary General Assembly planned, to be held on 12 February 2021 in Melbourne, Australia. This meeting will have just one main agenda point, but it is an important one – a vote on IFLA's new Statutes.

As the Secretary General says "This is a key milestone in our Governance Review, which aims to make IFLA a more inclusive, effective and transparency organisation, and in doing so, give us the structures and tools to deliver on the ambition of our Strategy. Now, as throughout the process, your voice and your input is vital."

Elections and nominations

After the Extraordinary General Assembly the nominations and elections of 2021 will begin. Further information will be given. (See the announcement [here](#))

Please continue your work on ensuring that your units continue to be as global as possible, with representations from all parts of the world.

Objective 4 - Develop the congress as a professional experience and international forum and participate in the review of the congress

2021 WLIC

Progress made by the Conference Working Group on the virtual conference was presented.

A survey was sent out in October.

- professional units,
- IFLA members
- past attendees
- IFLA industry partners.

The results of the surveys and the extensive comments helped us understand the needs and expectations of those different groups. You can view the summary results on the [IFLA website](#).

IFLA's WLIC 2021 Working Group has been combing through the results of the surveys and exploring the issues linked to holding a truly global conference. These include

- international and regional perspective,
- professional contributions,
- financial sustainability,
- and our relationships with industry partners.

With this in mind, we are moving into the Development phase over the coming two months. The process will now be led by the Governing Board's Conference Advisory Committee.

The following information has been sent out to all officers before and Catharina mentioned this again:

- WLIC 2021 will not be a duplication of the past physical conference. IFLA will take the opportunity of a virtual environment to experiment with different timings, formats of sessions and opportunities for engagement.
- The conference will revolve around a curated core programme with an emphasis on quality and alignment with the theme and the sub-themes.
- The design of the core programme will incorporate the desire of survey respondents for shorter, more interactive sessions and formats.
- Professional Units will be invited to contribute ideas for the conference programme and we will explore other opportunities to showcase their work in varied formats.
- There will be no Satellite Meetings in 2021.
- The first business meeting of all committees that would normally be scheduled at the conference should take place in the first two weeks of August.
- The second business meeting of all committees should be held within two weeks of the end of WLIC.
- More information on the business meetings, the induction of new committee members and the transition/handover to a new committee will be provided in 2021.
- The preferred dates for WLIC are in the last two weeks of August 2021 but exact dates are yet to be confirmed.

Looking forward

The PC work will concentrate on the finalisation of the Governance Review pertaining to the Professional Council and the Professional Units and on the Rules of Procedure.

The Professional Committee will also provide advice and support to the CAC (Congress Advisory Committee) as needed during the upcoming WLIC Development phase.

Catharina is a member of both the PC and the CAC.

After Catharina's report there were a couple of questions from the units:

- Krystyna told that a lot of effort was put to prepare a satellite conference in LTR. So she questioned that in 2021 there won't be the satellite conferences. LTR reviewed proposals and has been waiting for a satellite conference. The section worked hard on it and once it already canceled a satellite conference due to the pandemics in 2020. So what should they do now? Catharina and Krystyna continues this discussion with Headquarter.
- A question in the chat was about nominations – the answer can be found [here](#).

3. Inspirational presentation

✓ by Ulrike Lang, CPDWL

Ulrike Lang did a short presentation on the [CPDWL "meet up" series](#), which was held last October. The idea to organize it arose early September at the SC meeting.

The purpose of the CPDWL “Get To Know You” Meet Ups is to help the standing committee members to get to know more about each. CPDWL has 33 standing committee members, corresponding members, and consultants. SC members were asked to act as organizers and moderators. There were 6 meet ups with 5 people in each group. Topics included but were not limited to: business background, private life, hobbies, involvement in CPDWL activities etc. Groups met in different time depending on their time zones and on various days. Each meet up lasted no more than 30 minutes.

Participants could freely choose a meeting with a topic and different time, a host they wanted to meet the most. Meet ups were opened for listeners who could either talk about themselves or stay quiet. All meet ups were recorded. So everyone was able to listen the recordings later and learn more about other participants.

Meet ups started with 2 minutes to introduce himself. Then the host asked questions all of the speakers and would invite one by one to speak. Speakers could ask questions as well. Some meet ups lasted more than 30 min., some were up to an hour. In introduction the host asked for some information as name, role and aim in CPDWL, length of time they were involved, what functions they had in CPDWL, what they liked and did not like, what they would like to do; if they have families, pets. There were questions like how you became a part of IFLA, who gave you support for this, what is your favourite part in WLIC or involvement in IFLA; any favourite – food, books, activity etc.

CPDWL is going to continue the meet ups further. A big difference between meeting and know each other face-to-face and virtually. So CPDWL is going to work on how to improve this project and meet more.

One of results was a new section in the newsletter – “And now for something completely different” which includes reports of CPDWL members about the media watched worldwide, the favourite read of the last month, the most important projects that were successful or not been successful, the recipe to make my staff more happy which could be a hint how to organize a daily work but it could also be the favourite cake you offered in the end of the year, for example.

Ulrike looked forward to seeing the July Newsletter if there will be these reports and how many there would be.

Also, CPDWL changed a little bit the way the section works. It had a What’s App club where CPDWL colleagues send to each other season’s greeting, cartoons, or share something that is not serious, so that’s not a part of the business meeting but gives touch of private life of the section members, consultants, and corresponding members.

Also WeChat Group for those who can’t use What’s App.

Ray Pan created a meme contest that was a lot of fun for those who participated.

Also, Ray asked CPDWL to choose some favorite music to create a playlist. 19 colleagues participated to out a diverse playlist from different continents.

Catharina highly appreciated CPDWL’s report and mentioned that: “It is a showcase of news ways of doing business”.

Jeremiah thanked Ulrike and Ray for sharing CPDWL’s experience.

✓ **by Magdalena Gomułka, NPSIG**

The internal work and importance of collaboration in the webinar series “New Librarians-Global Connection: Best Practices, Models and Recommendations”.

She stressed on how to improve a unit’s work.

Since 2012 NP SIG presents free webinars titled as “New Librarians Global Connection: best practices, models and recommendations” in cooperation with IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning and ALA.

How to organize it in an effective way?

- To create a group of those who are interested in organizing a webinar
- To find a topic
- Once a year – a survey – topics from libraries

Magda demonstrated how to use [Trello Program](#) for organizing webinars.

Hella asked where any interested in NPSIG activity can find news about a unit.

Magda told that NPSIG uses blog and social media mostly. Also, using Trello in organizing events helps not to lose any valuable information.

4. Exchange of ideas and experience, All units prepare:

- How do your unit keep everyone within the standing committee engaged in the work?
- How are you working in new ways when all of the meetings and work is virtual?
- What has worked and what didn't work? Give an example on a successful initiative and also an unsuccessful initiative from which we can learn.

a. by Management of Library Associations

Hella agreed with previous speakers that there have been always people who were very active and people who stay quite. MLAS has been regular Zoom meetings each month. MLAS copied experience from the Division IV Chair to ask members to prepare on questions.

MLAS is going to launch a webinar series soon – there will be different topics. The first webinar is on “Library Map of the World.” The presenters of the second webinar will be three candidates for nomination Presidents-Elect.

To organize different events MLAS creates groups to coordinate them.

b. by Management & Marketing

Anya thanked speakers for sharing their experience and told that there are a lot of new things and technologies she got to know. And she said that for sure M&M will introduce them into the section's work.

Jeremiah liked an idea with Trello. It is always a challenge to find a platform that can be used by all members. M&M was going to launch a call for submissions for the IFLA PressReader International Marketing Award.

c. by Library History SIG

Kerry Smith told that the first challenge was to organize a zoom session with SIG's members. What really helped was a lesson from IFLA on how to use Zoom. A unit has a very large project – Oral History of IFLA's past presidents, secretaries general and IFLA's personalities. This project will be a contribution into celebrating 100 years of IFLA in 2027. There are a lot of gaps in the history of library professionals. Another direction is to gather data on libraries that have oral history projects. The idea is to colour a map and show if these countries have oral histories.

d. Statistics and evaluation

Bella thanked colleagues from other section for sharing their experience.

A section has meeting each month. It follows the Action Plan. Getting everyone to follow a schedule is a problem but there is an excuse because everyone is busy, especially over the last months.

Bella and Mary-Jo told about a project for IFLA to evaluate and get statistics on return on investments for libraries.

e. by Education and Training

Albina thanked all presenters, especially Ulrike, Jeremiah, Loida and Magda for experience and ideas they shared. It gave more ideas on activities for SET.

SET has taken on numerous activities this year, even beyond those that were listed in the Action Plan. For example, it has taken on a webinar series that has been very well-attended thus far. In this, and other projects, there have been ongoing and frequent communications with selected SET members as well as the Section as a whole.

In January 2021 SET is going to launch two projects. Though the main target is LIS students, these projects also aimed at engaging SC members:

- “#ProfessionalAdvice – LIS Professionals to LIS Students” - it is a mini-project for social media to promote SET. We ask LIS professionals for advice for LIS students. It's up to 3 sentences.
- “Books to read to become LIS professional” (a working title) - SET members recommend top 5 professional books to LIS students; after that we can ask members from other units to recommend books.

There are several project teams (3-4 people) working on initiatives.

SET started to plan the Division IV Project Webinar series for LIS students. Several Division IV officers were willing to participate – Loida from MLAS and Magda from NPSIG. Albina reminded that SET and involved units would be happy if any other sections join the project.

f. Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section

Gillian added that CPDWL has a lot of small projects. It is not a right time to have big projects. CPDWL is waiting for a new version of IFLA's website that will help in communication. The section uses lots of different social media channels. A challenge for some members is no Internet connection during the pandemics time.

g. New Professional SIG

Magda shared NPSIG's experience on how to engage people and to get better each other, especially those who are not active. NPSIG organized a discussion in Zoom on “What are we doing at work?” There have been some virtual tours in the libraries, discussing hobbies etc. Another event was reading a book aloud in MLAS meeting.

5. End of meeting

The Chair said that all experience is very impressive. Next meeting will be in April or May. Catharina wished to everyone to take care and stay healthy. Enormous thanks to all units.