Permanent UNIMARC Committee

The 24th PUC Meeting, planned for March 2013 in Maribor, Slovenia, was postponed to August, to take place during the IFLA Conference, due to the Chair’s sudden and serious illness. It was also decided to postpone the 4th UNIMARC User’s Group Meeting that would follow the PUC, in Maribor.

Membership of the PUC was updated in 2013 to include Ben Gu (China) and Gordana Mazić (Slovenia) as members, and Yannis Tavé (ISSN) and Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (IAML) as corresponding members.

The PUC had an informal meeting in 21 August, at the IFLA conference, with less than half of its constituency present. Therefore no pending UNIMARC proposals were discussed. The Group approached the issue of future leadership of the PUC and verified the status of items in the existing Action List, from earlier meetings. A brief report was given about the development of the project UNIMARC in RDF, initiated in early 2013, and the relationship with the proposed Namespaces Technical Group, expected to be approved by IFLA. Preparations started at this meeting for the UNIMARC User’s Group Meeting in 2014, and the idea of a joint session, possibly with Cataloguing and Bibliography Sections, was agreed for next IFLA.

During 2013 all updates to the 3rd editions of UNIMARC/Bibliographic (2008) and Authorities (2009) approved up until December 2012, were consolidated and published on the UNIMARC website.

An application for funding the project Representation of UNIMARC for Linked Data, as a continuation of the Project UNIMARC in RDF Project, was submitted in October to the PC. The proposal received partial funding for 2014.

The next PUC Meeting is scheduled for 12-13 March 2014, at IZUM (Maribor, Slovenia) followed by the 4th UNIMARC User’s Group Meeting on 14 March, at the same venue. Preparation of the programme for this meeting is well advanced.
UNIMARC Sessions at IFLA

The session at IFLA 2013, attended by over 70 people, was entitled *Expanding MARC metadata services with linked open data* and provided three published papers and one presentation:

- **Libraries in a Linked Data World: impacts for cataloging**, Ted Fons and Richard Wallis (OCLC, Dublin, Ohio, USA)
- **S’appuyer sur la structure des données et les liens - le format MARC comme tremplin pour le Web de données : l’exemple de data.bnf.fr**, Vincent Boulet (Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, France)
- **Publishing Persian linked data of National library and Archive of Iran**, Saeedeh Eslami and Mohammad Hossein Vaghefzadeh (National Library and Archive of Iran, Tehran, Iran)
- **The UNIMARC in RDF project: namespaces and linked data**, Mirna Willer (University of Zadar, Croatia), Gordon Dunsire (Independent Consultant, Edinburgh, UK) and Predrag Perožić (University of Zadar, Croatia)

For IFLA 2014, the PUC will hold a joint session with the Classification & Indexing, Cataloguing and Bibliography Sections under the theme *Universal Bibliographic Control in the digital age: golden opportunity or paradise lost?*. A call for papers was issued and the selection is currently taking place.

Maria Inês Cordeiro

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