



**World Library and Information Congress
73rd IFLA General Conference and Council
Durban, August 18-24 2007**

ART LIBRARIES SECTION

Draft Minutes

SC 1: Saturday August 18

8.30-11.20 AM

Notes of SC1 taken by Martha McPhail and prepared by Joye Volker

1. Welcome

The Chair, Olga Sinitsyna, welcomed the members to the First Standing Committee meeting in Durban, South Africa. She gave thanks to all who had long journeys. She noted that the Art Section should have a wonderful conference. The Chair announced that she and Secretary, Eila Ramo, were standing for re-election. John Meriton is finishing his term as Treasurer.

2. Results of the election of the new SC members

The Section received more nominations than there were seats in the Standing Committee. The Section now has 22 members. This number is important because it serves to demonstrate that we have sufficient interest in the Section. There are 79 members of the Art Libraries Section currently, down from 89 last year.

Greetings were given to new members: Lucile Trunel, Susan Allen, Jan Simane, Edward Teague, Joye Volker, and Kate Sloss. Martha McPhail from the USA was re-elected. Joye Volker was unable to attend due to transit difficulties from Australia.

Olga gave her appreciation to outgoing members, John Meriton, Margaret Young, Veronique Meunier, Kenneth Soehner and Sylvie Leray.

3. Apologies from SC members

Apologies were noted from Rudiger Hoyer, Alicia Garcia and Jo Beglo.

4. Election of Officers for 2007-2009

A quorum was declared at the meeting. The Chair had attended the Division Officers meeting on 17 August where they detailed Section elections. IFLA expressed their preferred option for two officers rather than three. The meeting agreed that there should be three. Susan Allen was nominated and unanimously elected as Treasurer. Olga Sinitsyna was re-nominated as Chair and Eila Ramo was re-nominated as Secretary. Both were elected unanimously. Jeannette Clough will add all new members on the Standing Committee to the iflaart listserve. Members may also join on the website.

5. Calendar of Events for ALS

The calendar of events at the conference was reviewed. The Chair and Secretary had worked with IFLA Headquarters to solicit interest from South African art librarians. This was difficult, but plans have been made to meet at 9.30 am on Tuesday to tour the Durban Art Gallery and Library. There will also be one speaker from South Africa in the Open Session with a total of five papers presented. All Section members are invited to the IFLA restructuring meeting on Sunday.

Jo Beglo sent her proposals for the meeting and pre-conference in Canada. The Art Section will need to discuss Quebec and Milan on Friday's SC II meeting. Plans need to be finalised so they can be included in the preliminary program for 2008.

6. Reports 2006-2007

Section membership

It was noted that some smaller arts institutions could not afford membership. ARLIS/NA did not renew its institutional membership this year. IFLA has a membership ToolKit to help solicit new members. Eila noted that we also need new Corresponding Members. The Section has a new CM from Japan who will

assist in developing membership in Asia. CM period is 2 +2 years, so Elsa Barbarena is no longer CM. Contacts with related Sections such as Rare Books and Manuscripts and the Audiovisual Section may be useful. More encouragement is needed for long standing members to stay active. European countries such as Belgium, Holland and Italy are not fully represented.

Publications report by the Information Officer

Eila Ramo reported that leaflets have been produced in six languages, but we still need Chinese and Arabic. Two issues of the *Newsletter* have been published. 31st October 2007 is the next deadline for publication. IFLA conference papers and reports will be included. National reports will go into the October issues as well.

There is a formal Working Group on the Newsletter who agreed that it would remain an information publication and not a scholarly publication. There was discussion whether the Newsletter should be hard copy or alternatively, online. The Getty and IFLA almost cover the publishing costs. The recent issues are also available as PDFs on the website. Printed copies are preferred for archiving purposes. Jeanette, Douglas, Susan, Martha, Martin and Eila will meet during the conference to discuss these issues. Doug will digitise some past issues. Open Session papers are published on IFLANET. One paper must be selected for the *IFLA Journal*. The *Art Libraries Journal* will publish other articles from the Open Session.

Olga noted that she had given four presentations on the IFLA Art Section history at various conferences. Last year's IFLA conference presentation was published in *Art Libraries Journal*, Vol 22:3, 2007.

John Meriton has asked John Thompson for the Imageline software to migrate the database to other software. As this has not yet been accomplished, Lucile Trunel from BNF volunteered to follow this up.

Financial Report by Secretary & Treasurer

John Meriton provided a report that was distributed and discussed. In August 2007 the Section had \$5575.30. Outgoings included the bookmark, newsletters, etc.

Total expenditure over the year:	6662.72 Euro	
Total credit	2130 Euro	
Balance at IFLA HQ	1042 Euro	
Balance with Treasurer	539 Euro	
Designation to HQ for the Art Libraries Directory		3386 Euros.

Susan Allen will speak to HQ to see where the funds that the current Treasurer holds will be maintained.

7. Projects Reports

International Directory of Art Libraries

Martin distributed his report on the International Directory of Art Libraries to be discussed at SCII.

Bookmark

Marie Claude Thompson printed 2000 bookmarks for the Art Libraries Section.

The meeting closed at 11.20am

SC II: Friday August 24

8.30-10.50 AM

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She greeted the delegate from the Informatics and Design Faculty, University of Capetown. It was estimated that about 200 delegates had attended the ALS Open Session and it was highly successful.

National Reports

National Reports were received from France, United States, UK & Ireland, Portugal, Russia, Australia and ARLIS/Norden. Full reports will be published in the *IFLA Art Libraries Section Newsletter*. There was discussion about the membership of the Section with concern expressed that ARLIS/NA was no longer a member.

Virtual Catalogue for Art History

Jan Simane, Germany, reported on new developments on Art Libraries Net (formerly Virtual Art Library). A large group of participants are working on this project. There are 26 target systems connected with 61 libraries and 6 million records. It is growing and interest is high. Initially it was a national project in Germany. There is no central library for art in Germany. Now a virtual catalogue allows simultaneous searches over the 61 catalogues. In 2003 the project became international. Colleagues from France, Great Britain and the Netherlands joined. In the last two years the National Art Library, the Getty, and the Gulbankian Foundation have joined. Three more important art libraries are considering joining once technological difficulties have been resolved. The goal is to cover a broad and vast field of art history. New partners offer new bibliographic art records and complement the existing holdings. The steering group has created a new website. They would like to include Poland and Scandinavia. Technically it is not complicated. Low fees are applied. Meetings are held twice a year with the next one in London. The database includes books, photography collections, digital collections, etc. Jan is extremely happy about the development and a commitment to an excellent outcome. For more details see the *Newsletter* No 59 2006, 7-8. IFLA Art Libraries Section may make this into an IFLA project. (Click on the English flag if you don't read German.)
<http://www.artlibraries.net/>

Newsletter Group Meeting

A meeting to discuss the future of the *Newsletter* attracted a large number of Standing Committee members. The meeting agreed that the Section would continue to have a paper, as well as an online version. A new agreement with the designer and printer will maintain costs. The Section money that is still in an account in England will be used for the growing expencies of the Newsletter. Also sponsorship money would be warmly wellcomed. The Getty supports the printed version.

It was noted that the Bill Gates Foundation donation of 1 million dollars to IFLA will support advocacy positions which would develop the website.

Project Reports

Martin Flynn spoke to a scoping study prepared by Bernadette Archer earlier this year on the IFLA International Directory of Art Libraries. Issues were discussed including the updating of the material and the technological improvement of search engines with the capability of delivering similar information. It was agreed that this innovative project was now closed and that new directions would be include:

- Encouraging art libraries to add information to the *World of Learning and World Cat*;
- Noting that the Registry Service on OCLC is free;
- Adding both a link and a short description of national bodies of art librarians to IFLA Art.

A letter of appreciation would be sent to Thomas Hill recognising his diligent and valuable work with this project. There was a vote of thanks to both Martin and Bernadette for their major contributions.

There were 2000 bookmarks printed. Distribution of the bookmarks and their layout was discussed.

Future Activities

There was a need to revise the Strategic Plan in line with the IFLA strategic plan. It was agreed that this would progress through communication on the discussion list.

Selection of paper for the *IFLA Journal*

It was agreed that David Paton's paper on Artists' Books would be offered to the *IFLA Journal*. Gillian Varley, editor of the *Art Libraries Journal* will publish 4 or 5 of the other papers.

Future Conferences

Discussion about themes for the Quebec 2008 conference included Art Libraries Net and the Global Memory Net. It was suggested that the Open Session could be *Art across the borders: the role of virtual art libraries towards a better understanding and diversity*. Other topics would include CHIN and RLG's OAI harvesting of art images.

It was agreed that the pre-conference will be held in Montreal 6 – 8 August. The SC will meet on Saturday 9th August. In addition there will be a 2 hour session early in the week and a full day off-site workshop.

The 2009 IFLA Conference *Libraries create futures; building on cultural heritage* will be held 23-27 August in Milan. There will be a pre-conference in Venice. There would also be an off-site event in Florence or possibly a study tour.

Other Business

It was noted, with appreciation, that Kerstin Assarsson-Rizzi had written about the ALS visit to the Durban Art Gallery and Library in the *IFLA Express*.

The meeting closed at 13.25.