



**IFLA
School Libraries Section
Midyear Meeting**

Austin, Texas, USA

April 13, 2015

Minutes

In attendance: Barbara Schultz-Jones (Chair), Dianne Oberg (Secretary), Lesley Farmer, Karen Gavigan, Randi Lundvall, Annike Selmer, and Diljit Singh.

1. Chair Barbara Schultz-Jones began the meeting, welcoming all present and reviewing **meeting expectations** for setting a path for the new Standing Committee (SC), especially with regard to the dissemination and implementation of the 2015 School Library Guidelines (pending final approval by IFLA's Governing Board).
2. The Chair provided an update on the School Libraries Standing Committee's **membership and leadership** for 2015-2017. She announced that she and the current Secretary would not be running for re-election at WLIC 2015. Continuing members (2013-2017) of the SC are: Lisa Astrom (Sweden), Lesley S. J. Farmer (USA), Karen Gavigan (USA), Rei Iwasaki (Japan), Mireille Lamouroux (France), Danielle Martinod (France), Dianne Oberg (Canada), and Annike Selmer (Norway). New members (2015-2019) of the SC are: Albert Boekhurst (Brazil), Valerie Glass (France), Vanja Jurilj (Croatia), Verena Lee Ping (Singapore), Inina Nehme (Germany), Judy O'Connell (Australia), Joanne Plante (Canada), and Ivanka Stricevic (Croatia).
3. Secretary Dianne Oberg provided an update on **WLIC 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa**:
 - Pre-conference Satellite – a joint two-day session with the Information Literacy Section, “School Libraries: Taking Stock—Taking Action,” August 13-14, 2015. Day 1 includes keynote presenters Rodd Todd (USA) and Lyn Hay (Australia); Day 2 includes a Guided Inquiry Design track and a track on the school library as a force for supporting 21st century teaching and learning. A copy of the book *Guided Inquiry Design* (Kuhlthau, Maniotes & Caspari, 2012) will be provided to all registrants for the Satellite Meeting.
 - School Libraries Section Open Session, August 17, 2015 – “Global Action on School Library Guidelines: Development and Implementation” – 5

presentations plus launching of the new School Library Guidelines and the new book *Global Action on School Library Guidelines* (including chapter introductions with authors present).

- Joint Session with Health and Biosciences Libraries Section, August 19, 2015 - “Well-being: School Libraries and Health Libraries Working for Access, Development and Transformation” – 6 presentations (received 17 proposals).
4. **School-L:** The report of Information Officer Tricia Adams was received and discussed. The School-L list is not moderated, but it is restricted to subscribers. Any subscribed member can send messages to the list. Others, with e-mail addresses unknown to the System, will be automatically rejected. The task to give permission to those who are qualified to join the list lies with the administrators. They will receive the subscription requests by e-mail. The SC needs only to supply the name/s and email address/es of one or two new administrators, and they can be given access. The listserv has 276 members but it seems to have been inactive since Karen Usher was SC Chair, so it needs to be re-activated. Lesley Farmer volunteered to co-administer until our meeting in Cape Town in August 2015. Dianne Oberg will ask Tricia Adams to serve as co-administrator with Lesley Farmer until August and to add the emails of current and new SC members to the listserv.
5. Section **Action Plan and New Initiatives:** Discussion began with a review of the 2013-2015 Action Plan and generation of potential satellite conferences, potential joint sessions, and a possible third “Global ...” book for 2018-2019. Five theme areas were identified:
- “Inclusion and Cohesion: Contribution of School Libraries” -- diversity, cultural sensitivity, multicultural issues, indigenous matters, immigration issues, culturally responsive instruction – in tension with trends to curriculum standardization, the Common Core – potential SL Open Session for WLIC 2016 in Columbus, OH (WLIC theme: Collections, Collaboration, Community).
 - “Professional Development for School Library Professionals” – lifelong and life-wide learning, from pre-service to continuing education, webinars – potential joint or satellite session with Education and Training Section.
 - “College and Career Readiness: Role of School Librarians” – civil literacy, digital literacy, health literacy.
 - “Evidence-based Practice in School Libraries” – evaluation, value-added propositions.
 - “School Libraries and Sustainability” – the economic development aspect of school libraries.

6. **Natural Disaster Situations** (such as Vanuatu). The potential roles for IFLA and/or IASL were discussed. Lesley Farmer reported that she has alerted IFLA SL SC members about the Vanuatu situation through the SL Blog. She has created a list of resources for emergency situations, and she will update and share that list on IASL-LINK, School-L, and the IFLA School Libraries blog.

7. **Global Action Book** – The production of *Global Action on School Library Guidelines* (DeGruyter Saur, forthcoming. June 2015), is ahead of schedule. Co-editors Barbara Schultz-Jones and Dianne Oberg are now working on corrections to the second proofs. The book should be available for a soft launch at IASL in Maastricht in June 2015. Dianne Oberg will ask DeGruyter for information about its sales of the 2011 book, *Global Perspectives on School Libraries: Projects and Practices*, and its plans for marketing the new book. A flyer that could be reproduced for conferences would be useful, e.g., distribution by Diljit Singh in June 2015 at the Southeast Asia Librarians Group conference in Bangkok and at the Chinese Teacher-Librarians conference in Macao.

8. **Draft IFLA School Library Guidelines** – The *Guidelines* document was reviewed by the IFLA Professional Committee and was approved in principle, subject to comments from the Indigenous Matters SIG. The SIG has provided suggestions, which will be incorporated into the *Guidelines* document. The dissemination and implementation were discussed. In summary:

- Dissemination and implementation initiatives need to begin immediately after WLIC 2015, with leadership from the 2015-2017 School Libraries SC and the Joint Committee of IASL/IFLA School Libraries.
- Announcements related to the Guidelines should be sent out on IFLA-L and School-L and on IASL's Twitter and Facebook feeds.
- Investigate the process for obtaining UNESCO endorsement of the *Guidelines*.
- Investigate with IFLA HQ what publication options are available for the *Guidelines* (beyond PDF format), e.g., a softcover booklet, or a hardcover De Gruyter book.
- Creation of a tri-fold brochure about the *Guidelines* and the *Global Action* book (SC and/or Joint Committee initiative).
- Translation into IFLA's official languages - Recommend that the *Guidelines* (approximately 70 pages of text) be forwarded to IFLA Translation Centres, with a request to fast track the translation of the *Guidelines'* Executive Summary and Recommendations (approximately 5 pages of text).
- Translation into other languages – Recommend that other language groups follow Norway's lead. Two Norwegian members of the School Libraries SC, Randi Lundvall and Annike Selmer, and a special advisor

on school services at the Oslo public library, Anne Kari Holm, have begun a volunteer initiative to translate the *Guidelines* into Norwegian: they have alerted librarians about the initiative through the listerv of the National Library of Norway and are planning their first meeting after the Cape Town WLIC.

- SC and /or Joint Committee to propose 2-hour or 3-hour workshops on the dissemination and implementation of the *Guidelines* for IFLA 2016 in Columbus, OH (USA) and for IASL 2016 in Tokyo (Japan).
- SC and /or Joint Committee to consider developing webinars on the dissemination and implementation of the *Guidelines* for 2015-2017. Consider possible IFLA project proposal for development and delivery of online learning platform materials on the *Guidelines*.
- Need to plan for evaluating the dissemination and implementation initiatives and for sharing the evaluation data (important for both national or regional comparisons and for purposes of inspiration and aspiration).

The members of the IFLA School Libraries Standing Committee concluded their Midyear meeting at the Opening Reception and Dinner of the IASL Regional Conference, sponsored by the University of Austin iSchool. On the two days following the Midyear Meeting, members of the IFLA School Libraries Standing Committee also participated in the IASL Regional Conference and the Texas Library Association Conference.

Sincere thanks and appreciation to our host for the Midyear meeting, Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones, and to the Department of Information Studies at the University of North Texas for their generosity to the members of the IFLA School Libraries Standing Committee.

Dianne Oberg, Secretary
IFLA School Libraries Standing Committee
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