



Social Science Libraries Section
Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting II
Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 11:30-1:00

ATTENDEES:

Liz Cooper, Chair/Treasurer
Sylvia Piggott
Kayo Denda,
Deb Cheney,
Chiku Michumbo,
Maria Elena Dorta Duque, Secretary
Lynne Rudasill.
Liudmila Kildyushevskaya
Fred Hay,
Odile Dupont,
Patricia Wand
Gene Hayworth

APOLOGIES

Sebastian Nix
Britta Biederman
Jennifer Ward
Aracely Garcia
Wilda Newman

OBSERVERS

Constantine Nyambosa (Kenya)
Christine Brown (Alberta, Canada)
Michel Fraysse (Toulouse, France)
Gandhimathy Durairaj (Asia)
Sabina Robertson (Arts Librarian Melbourne, Australia)
Stephen Mau Kimani (Kenya)
Maria Cotera (Womens outgoing convener)
Mabel Majanja (S. Africa)
Harry Mbeya (Malawi)
Nora Dominguez (Guatemala)

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AGENDA MEETING 2 Singapore

1. Adopt Agenda (Cooper)
2. Approve minutes from Helsinki meetings (Dorta-Duque)
3. Program ideas for our 2014 session in Lyons.
4. Satellite conference ideas for 2015 in Namibia
5. Section project ideas for 2014/2015.



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6. Proposal from The Women, Information and Libraries Special Interest Group represented today by Maria Cotera as observer.

1. Adopt Agenda (Cooper)

The agenda was approved without additions/deletions.

2. Review and approve minutes from 2012 IFLA World Congress Helsinki meetings (Dorta-Duque)

The minutes were approved.

3. Program ideas for our 2014 session in Lyons. (Cooper)

IFLA Program themes for 2014 include: "Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluences for Knowledge"; "Strong libraries strong societies".

After much discussion, the Social Science Libraries Standing Committee (SSLSC) decided on a proposed program title/idea for a 2014 program:

"Librarians as change agents: finding, using and managing data for social purposes"

Give us your stories

In the call for papers, we will ask for different aspects of this topic which could include:

- Women: Women's SIG convener also loves this topic – they could present on some aspect of this topic related to women. We could combine our session time and do a Pt 1 -2 – dialogue or break (otherwise a combined session is too long). – in call for papers, ask for aspects
- e.g. Digital literacies – librarians engage, adopt techs to work with digitally born; data mining; etc... (see some other ideas in the discussion notes below); training; new roles; big data; privacy; etc...

This topic links to Key Initiatives: digital content; international library leadership development; outreach/advocacy.



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We discussed approaching other IFLA units to see if they were interested in partnering with our Section for the program. Specifically: National Libraries, Government Libraries, Law Libraries, Public Libraries and e-Government Libraries units.

Notes from discussion leading to program topic selection:

- We have two proposals from Britta and Sebastian sent by e-mail:
 - Britta's proposal is the profession, "Librarian" as a topic for next year. «*The librarian as captain of ship in a river of knowledge*» Meaning that Librarians have many roles today. They are part of the society; they are citizen as well and work as middleman (or "middlewomen") in libraries. They oscillate between information and patrons.

She said that this quote illustrates another aspect of the picture given for the next conference: "No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man" (Heraklit). She suggest this theme together with the section «*Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning*»
 - Sebastian proposed as for a potential 2014 topic, the suggestion he made last year "Research data management in social science libraries: challenges, benefits, best practice." Some libraries are already very active when it comes to managing research data "produced" within their institution (i.e. university, research institute, etc.) – but research data management is far from being a standard service provided by social science libraries. Furthermore, there are complex problems (e.g. privacy/anonymization issues) to be solved, especially concerning qualitative data.
- Maria Cotera, Visitor from Women's SIG, outgoing convener: would like to partner/collaborate with our section on a program. Their SIG's mission is related to contributions of librarians to society (women)– loved this year's SSLSC program, we have lots in common. Looking at Key Initiatives... -- we will try to partner.
- Pat: data mining (program from before – was packed, had good speakers) general theme was that libraries need to be positioned to support text



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mining... looking for patterns relationships not visible in other ways, requires lots of storage, knowledge of what you are really searching (often only English)

- Deb: Our most popular programs have been socially oriented – how can we tie data to this; Newspaper Section digital content; tools, issues, i-licenses, etc...
- Chiku: Link to KIs
- Gene: Data mining might be narrow – finding, using and managing data
- Librarian from Alberta: Librarians changing role in this... examples could be: this is how I have worked with my colleagues on creating DMPs etc.. ; librarians now having this role – how did they learn to take on this new thing?
- Kayo: great idea – hear examples of people working in Social Sciences in different ways of - what does this mean – access to people
- Pat: keep it wide – we have a wide variety of attendees at IFLA– diff services and audiences; researchers creating data and smaller libs gathering data advocate for ourselves
- Data for women, special groups,
- Librarian from Melbourne: lots of changes in services, cultural changes – make sure librarians partner with researchers, lot of diff directions to go in, Google changing our profession
- Lynne: top to individual level – big data, who owns – Gap knows what size you wear.
- Big data for social purpose – privacy issues
- Grants are now requiring data plans, submitting data
- “Managing data for social purpose”
 - Could give examples, subtitles
- Training librarians – data management 6 weeks course intensive online training – capacity building; engaging more colleagues
- “Roles for libraries/librarians in the (big) data world/culture” – social science context
- learning analytics – example; training
- Pat Wand finally proposed:
“Librarians as Change Agents; Finding, Using and Managing Data for Social Purposes.”

4. Satellite conference ideas for 2015



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- At SSLSC Meeting #1, Chiku proposed that Namibia could host a satellite meeting in Namibia in 2015. She volunteered to investigate and discuss with other Namibian/African librarians for feedback before our Meeting #2.
- Chiku shared that she has communicated with colleagues and they came up with a proposed theme: “Libraries Supporting National Development”. We can play with subthemes, other countries can present. Make it global – different regions.
- Partnering with another section?? gov/libraries/law/national/parliamentary – be sure especially to include public libraries and NGOs, e.g. governance. SSLSC agreed to move forward with a 2015 satellite meeting proposal.
- Satellite 2015 proposals will be due March 2014.

5. Section project ideas for 2014/2015.

a. Should we submit a PC project request for funds?

- Liz gave examples of PC projects.
- Lynne mentioned that standards were a good thing to focus on for projects. Is there something we can do/create re. best practices for digital literacy for students, public, etc... Remember, projects MUST be tied to KIs (KI1 is the best as it is broad and has most things tied to it); we could work with other IFLA offices....; e.g. Document best practices for XYZ, also create a training toolkit; make it ongoing so that you can make more robust over time. Project term is usually 1 year, rarely extend to 2 years.
- Some examples of projects include: surveys on specific issues, create tools/maps of things, best practices and guidelines, workshops (but usually have something in place before request funds to hold) – usually offered during the year often supported through BSLA, webinars (e.g. NC gov info webinars); IFLA does not have subscription to any webinar software.
- Discussed the idea of continuing what we started last year working with IFLA and IFLA Advocacy office (Stuart) re. the Namibia paper we had last year (re. advocating with IMF etc. for them to see libraries as part of education sector). Pat will start brainstorming. Fits with satellite – Chiku can help. Email Pat if interested. Pat may want to contact Stuart at IFLA and Ellen Namhila, author of our paper last year, to learn about status of her work.



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- This would not require funds (at least in the first year) so this is a “project” we could take on that we do not need to submit a PC Project Funds request.

b. Do we need an official “mission” statement for our action plans (it asks for one)?

Liz looked and realized we did not have one so drafted one from our “About” Social Science Libraries Section webpage: “supports the work of libraries and librarians that support research and practice in the broad domain of the Social Sciences.” Do we want to work on drafting a new mission statement?

- Deb – would help to have a mission in planning projects – social issues seem to be important to our section, so perhaps include that in the mission.
- Pat would like to work on that theme – how to recognize the library’s role in development (e.g. related to the paper from Namibia presented in our program last year).
- Perhaps we can work on this via email this year.

6. Other business: Group photos were taken.