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**Minutes Law Libraries Section: Standing Committee Second Session**

**82. IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Columbus, Ohio**

**IFLA Standing Committee on Law Libraries Section**

Tuesday August 15, 2016, 8:00‐9.30, Session 118, Rm. C225

**Chair**: Sonia Poulin

*Present S.C. Members:*

Sonia Poulin, Marisol Florén‐Romero (Information Coordinator), Edita Bačić, Hélène Besnier, Anne Burnett, Carole Hinchcliff, Sarah (Sally) Holterhoff, Margo Jeske, Yolanda Jones, Teresa Miguel-Stearns, Radu D. Popa.

*Absent S.C. members*:

Ursula Bödecker, Jeong‐Kwon Cho, Michel Fraysse, Caroline Ilako (apologies), Elizabeth Naumczyk (Secretary, apologies), Robert R. Newlen, Rodrigo Obrador (apologies), Lagdhir Rabari, Amal Tarhini.

*Observers:* Kristina Alajan, Meg Carruth, Trezlen Drake, Ryan Harrigton (IALL), John Hostage, Yeh Lan, Yao Yi-Lan, Suzanna Louzada, Darlington Musemburi, Omlabake Ogunwande, Bamgloose Oludnyo, George Prager, Leslie Street, Christine Weidenslaufer, Stephen Wyber.

**1. Call to order and welcome (Sonia Poulin, Chair)**

Sonia Poulin, IFLA Law Libraries Section Chair, welcomed all participants at the second Standing Committee (SC) meeting. A list of participants was sent around for all to fill out their contact information. The attendees, comprising members of the SC and observers, introduced themselves (all together 26 participants).

**2. Corresponding members (Sonia Poulin)**

Sonia followed-up items 13 and 14 of Saturday August 13 agenda with respect to corresponding members as well as recognition of corresponding members leaving the Section, which was not discussed at the first session of the Standing Committee. John Bahrij and Blair Kaufman completed their term as corresponding members. The SC can nominate up to five corresponding members.Three persons were submitted for these positions: Bård Tuseth (Norway), John Bahrij (Hong Kong) who wished to continue and Claire Germain (United States) the past chair. It was agreed to request past chairs to continue for a term as a corresponding member. It would be beneficial to have the past chair as a corresponding member in the future in order to provide continuity, and transfer of experience and knowledge to the new members of the Standing Committee. A motion was passed by Sally Holterhoff to appoint the three persons listed above as corresponding members. The motion was seconded by Radu Popa, and approved by the present members of the SC.

The Chair pointed out that it would be beneficial to the Section to consider as corresponding members other persons representing regional areas not covered in the SC, such as Russia. Other submissions for corresponding members will be followed up by email.

**3. Review and decide Law Libraries programs and Committee for Wroclaw, Poland 2017 (Sonia Poulin)**

Sonia listed the proposed programs received:

• Submission from Bård Tuseth: *Law in Transition* addressing challenges for legal research and legal methodology in post-communist Europe. This is an important and relevant topic and would be good to have a joint program with the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section.

• Raissa Tedori proposed a joint program with Division 1 based on the main theme of the WLIC in Poland, *Libraries, Societies, Solidarity.* She suggested perhaps looking at the impact of libraries on societies seen from different points of view. Edita Bačić and Sonia Poulin proposed looking at the partnerships across Law Library Associations, specifically the impact of Law Libraries and Law Library Associations on Society. This would fit in the Division 1 program and would not use hours allocated to our Section. This proposal was accepted.

• Hélène Besnier proposed the topic which would consider examining legal classification schemes *Classification into Law*. This would involve collaboration with the Section on Subject Analysis and Access. This program would consider different classification schemes for law, from an international perspective, looking at similarities or differences. How do librarians choose classification schemes? How do they work to improve the schemes? This topic could be broadened to consider not only classification schemes but also subject analysis as this is important as a way to access the law. This proposal was accepted.

• Kristina Alayan proposed the topic *Solidarity and Stability in Time of Crisis* the role of libraries in times of turmoil. This program would look at the tension between the rule of law / or the lack thereof and role of libraries, examining the role of libraries as memory institutions during critical times in countries around the world, Ukraine, Poland, Nigeria, Russia, and Argentina among others. How libraries have an impact on society and their role in preserving memories. One example of the role that libraries may play during times of turmoil is the Peace Library at the University of Juba in Southern Sudan, created to support Sudan’s huge peace and development challenges.[[1]](#footnote-2) This program would not require a call for papers. This proposal was accepted.

• A paper or poster on standards could also be considered.

Raissa Tedori, Division 1 Chair, pointed out that it is possible for the Sections to request extra hours. Sonia Poulin will follow up and see if we could get additional hours.

**4. Standards Audit (Sally Holterhoff)**

Sally Holterhoff distributed a list of IFLA's standards. She explained that IFLA is asking that sections review the current list to determine their relevance. None of the standards have been created by our Section. A formal procedure of review exits and occurs every 5 year period. She asked whether the Law Libraries Section wants to propose a standard, or if is there any area not covered that needs a standard and would benefit our work. She highlighted that standards require regular monitoring and updating. As an example, Sally Holterhoff mentioned the case of the IFLA standard on legal deposit which was not accepted in the Caribbean until it became law. Compliance was only possible when the government enacted a legal instrument. She proposed that a compilation be made of what each country/region enacts for standards. This list could determine if there are elements that we can bring forward and perhaps create a standard. Yolanda Jones proposed the discussion to be continued by email.

Christine Weidenslaufer from the Library of Congress in Chile invited all to attend Session 153, *Government and Parliamentary Libraries as Innovators*. In her paper she is proposing a comparative law pilot project to exchange data on selected topics of law between different legal systems. This would be a collaborative effort and will use the expertise of librarians and legal researchers, each jurisdiction can provide its own information. Research guides could also be considered. This is important for those who need to navigate through legal systems of other countries when doing comparative law.

**5. Strategic plans (Sonia Poulin, Elizabeth Naumczyk & Marisol Florén Romero)**

Sonia Poulin reviewed the goals and objectives set forth for the 2015-16 Strategic Plan. All goals and objectives were accomplished. She will draft and distribute by email to all SC members the Strategic Plan for the year 2016-17 which needs to be submitted to IFLA in early November.

**6. Update on IFLA Africa Workshop (Sonia Poulin & Caroline Ilako)**

Sonia learned from IFLA that workshop templates and guidelines were apparently expected to be drafted as a result of the workshop held in Split, Croatia in 2014. Edita Bačić does not recall that this was part of the project fund proposal she had submitted. Everyone agreed that this methodology would not necessarily work in other countries. It was made clear by IFLA that one of the outcomes of the Uganda Workshop should be drafting of guidelines that can be used in the planning of future workshops. Funds were given for both the workshop and also for the documents that support the process. Additional funds were secured from the International Association of Law Libraries (IALL), represented during the meeting by Ryan Harrington. IALL will provide $1000 for the workshop. William S. Hein & Co., also confirmed their commitment to fund the workshop in Uganda.

**7. Membership, recruiting and involvement (Marisol Florén Romero)**

Item 18 on the agenda from the first session Standing Committee brought forward for discussion on recruitment and involvement in the activities and actions of the Section. It also covers the Communication Strategy. Marisol Florén Romero reported on meeting of the Communications team, Hélène Besnier, Margo Jeske and Marisol Floren. Communication and visibility were identified as a challenge. Several issues were discussed: the use of Twitter as a means of distribution of information and communication between the members; continuing the Newsletter, or creating a Blog following the success of the Public Libraries Section blog; using several law librarian’s distribution lists to reach out to colleagues from around the world to create interest in the Section. Discussions will continue and the team will work on this challenges.

**7.1 Other follow up actions, timeline and responsible parties**

* Lyonette Louis-Jacques’ list of law library associations needs updating as it is current to 2012.
* Margo Jeske said she has agreed to investigate and create a Twitter account.
* There will also be an effort to translate documents into Spanish and French and any other languages that might be available for translation.

**8. Report of IFLA Satellite meeting in Toronto (Margot Jeske)**

Margo Jeske presented the program from the Satellite meeting held in Toronto, Canada on August 10-11, 2016 “*Managing Human Resources in the Library and Information Context: How do we want to work tomorrow?”* The meeting was co-sponsored with IFLA Management and Marketing Section and abstracts and additional information can be found at [www.biblio.uottawa.ca/ext/ifla](http://www.biblio.uottawa.ca/ext/ifla). The meeting was successful with over 100 attendees and 35 speakers. Margo discussed the logistics required and acknowledged the amount of time and effort required in convening a satellite meeting.

**9. Satellite meeting in 2018 (Carol Hinchcliff)**

Carol Hinchcliff proposed a future satellite meeting to be focussed on Teaching Legal Research. March 2017 is the deadline for submission. Sally Holterhoff stated that we do not have the infrastructure to proceed and that perhaps this could be considered for 2019. Carole Hinchcliff, Sally Holterhoff and Margo Jeske offered to form a working group to examine possibilities. Ryan Harrington from IALL said he could be interested in working with us.

**10. Reception (Sonia Poulin)**

Sonia Poulin thanked Anne Burnett for organizing the lovely reception held at the beautiful Native American Lobby at the Moyer Judicial Center, which houses the Ohio Supreme Court. She also thanked the Supreme Court staff. The reception was very well attended with over 50 people in attendance. The guest speaker, Paul Beck, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Ohio State University, provided us with an entertaining overview of the United States electoral system including discussion of current presidential election and was very well received.

**11. Other business**

Sally Holterhoff reported on a meeting with IFLA’s Committee on Standards about the *Statement on Government Provision of Public Legal Information in the Digital Age* drafted by her. She said the meeting went well and the next step is to send a revised version to the Deputy Director-General Stuart Hamilton and he will share the draft with other sections. Comments were constructive and they thought it was quite well formed. She will keep us posted.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Notes taken by Margo Jeske

*Respectfully submitted by: Elizabeth Naumczyk, Secretary*

1. ANDREW BLUM, *Building South Sudan's First Peace Library, at*  <http://www.usip.org/publications/building-south-sudans-first-peace-library> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)