

Acquisition and Collection Development Section

ACTION PLAN 2013-2015

AUGUST 2014

Background information

The Acquisition and Collection Development Section focuses on the methodological and topical themes pertaining to the interrelated processes of collection development (planning and building a useful and balanced collection of library materials over a period of years) and acquisition.

Collection development is based on ongoing assessments of the information needs of library clientele, usage statistics analysis, and demographic projections, and is normally constrained by budgetary limitations. The processes of collection development include:

- formulation of selection criteria
- planning for resource sharing (i.e., cooperative decision-making within library consortia or with other libraries)
- planning for new collections or collection areas
- routine selection and de-selection decisions
- evaluating options for access (e.g., format choice, ownership v licensing)

These processes are guided by a Collection Development Policy which establishes priorities and facilitates decision making

The activities associated with the acquisition of materials (print, other traditional format library materials, and electronic resources) by purchase, exchange, gift, or legal deposit, include:

- ordering, receiving, claiming, and payment
- selecting and evaluating supply sources
- negotiating pricing
- licensing of electronic resources
- the open access movement
- scholarly communication

Specialized interests of the Section include collection development policies, collection development methods, techniques and practices for collection assessment, usage statistics, materials pricing issues, replacement of lost

or damaged items, ownership vs. access issues, format duplication, librarians' relations with publishers and vendors, and utilizing emerging technologies to enhance access to information resources. As access to materials becomes an increasingly viable alternative to ownership, the Section finds itself working more closely with the Sections on Serials and Other Continuing Resources, Document Delivery and Resource Sharing, and any advisory committees within IFLA that facilitate discussions between libraries and publishers and/or producers of electronic resources. Also of concern to the Section are the impact and application of technological developments that underlie many of the changes observed in library procedures, patron-initiated practices, and partnering arrangements for acquiring materials (such as electronic data interchange (EDI), licensing agreements, and cooperative and collaborative collection development). In formulating its Goals the Section strives to be flexible and responsive to changing conditions in the professional environment as well as in the information industry. The Section is especially cognizant of the need to integrate its Goals with the IFLA thematic focus and professional priorities.

Mission

The mission of the Section on Acquisition and Collection Development is to serve as a forum for the broader discussion and dissemination of information on evolving acquisition methods and for promoting strategies for successful and effective collection development in an evolving information environment in libraries around the world.

Goals

1. Monitor and evaluate the evolving nature of library collections, both print and electronic, including the increasing importance of consortial and cooperative acquisition and exchange programs. In addition, the Section is interested in the acquisitions function in libraries worldwide, including ordering and payment for materials electronically. Provide programmes on acquisition and collection development.

IFLA Strategic Initiatives:

- (1) Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information;
- (2) Building the strategic capacity of IFLA and that of its members;
- (3) Transforming the profile and standing of the profession;
- (4) Representing the interests of IFLA's members and their users throughout the world.

Actions:

- Develop annual programmes and satellite meetings (jointly with other sections, as appropriate) on a broad range of topics with application to all library types and to all geographic areas of the world. Publish a call

for papers and select appropriate speakers, both regional and non-regional.

- Held a satellite meeting in 2014; working on ideas for satellite meeting in 2016. (1,2,3,4)

1.2 Ensure that conference papers are translated into IFLA languages to promote a wider dissemination. (Ongoing) (1,2,4)

1.3 Continue to hold Mid-Term meetings to focus on the on-going activities of the Section, including preparations for the Annual Conference, and to present seminars for local colleagues on matters of local professional interest.

- In consideration of world economic issues, on hold until a later date. (1,2,3,4)

1.4 Sponsor conferences worldwide on relevant topics, such as the conference on repository libraries in Kuopio.

- Completed 2012/2014/2016. (1,2,3,4)

1.5 Sponsor workshops on acquisition and collection development issues.

- Held one in Mexico 2013; investigated one in India; open for ideas for the future. (1,2,3,4)

1.6 Sponsor the LGBTQ SIG, which has a focus on collection development in the area of materials related to LGBTQ issues, which has been under-represented in IFLA's work up to now. After four years they can review and determine if they wish to become their own Section.

- Support the creation of this Special Interest Group. (2013) (1,2,3,4)
- Offer guidance and support to them as they develop programs and activities in IFLA. (2014) (1,2,3,4)

2. Provide information on collection development activities, such as guidelines on collection development, e-resources, gifts, and de-acquisition and weeding of library collections.

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Actions:

2.1 Focus on completion and electronic publication of the IFLA Electronic Resources Guidelines.

- Completed English version August 2012. (1,2,3,4)

2.2 Review existing guides, reviewing or updating as appropriate, and explore options for future guides.

- Work on this in 2014-2015 (1,2,3,4)

2.3 Ensure that the Section's publications are translated into IFLA languages.

- Gifts guidelines now published in IFLA languages. (1,2,3,4)
- Plans to publish papers and translations for satellite conference papers published on web. (1,2,3,4)
- Translated E-Resources Guide into other languages. (1,2,3,4)
- Accepting postings for the Blog in all languages from our members (2014-2015) (1,2,3,4)

3. Develop working and cooperative relationships with comparable acquisition and collection development focused groups outside of IFLA.

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Actions:

3.1 Initiate formal and encourage informal contact with the various acquisition and collection development organizations of the American Library Association, with the Collection Development Division of LIBER, and with the global scholarly and commercial trade publishing marketplace.

- To review in upcoming years, 2014-2015. (1,2,3,4)
- Members to report from ALA and LIBER back to our membership through the blog and listserve, 2014-2015. (1,2,3,4)

3.2 Maintain awareness about related conferences, such as the annual Charleston Conference, and about the activities of IFLA Sections that focus on subject content and specific library environments.

- Publish on the blog. (1,2,3,4)

3.3 Maintain awareness about related organizations, sharing information from them with our members on the blog.

- Publish on the blog. (1,2,3,4)

4. Provide information about the work of the Section and the Standing Committee on IFLANET, via Blog, on the Section wiki, on the list serve, and by the publication of papers given during IFLA conferences or at Mid-Term meetings.

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Actions:

4.1 Publish electronically [the blog](#) of the Section [regularly](#), with a focus on the ongoing activities of the Section, reports/news from libraries and institutions worldwide, and book reviews.

- [Publish on the blog. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

4.2 Maintain the Section's webpage, ensuring timely updates with news, events, publications, minutes of meetings, and useful addresses.

- [On going. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

4.3 Maintain the ACQUIS-L and ACQUIS-NEW (with the latter to facilitate the exchange of files) restricted discussion lists for all Standing Committee members and encourage discussion and information sharing through these two channels.

- [On going. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

4.4 Disseminate significant Section documentation and announcements to the COLLDV-L, CHIEFCDO and LIBER discussion lists, at a minimum.

- [Publish on the blog. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

4.5 Explore social networking options to work in conjunction with the blog for sharing information about the Section's activities, promote the work of the Section and create a forum for discussion of topics of interest to the Section.

- [The Blog is connected to Facebook and Twitter; continue to update and maintain these as tools on their own and/or as a connection to the information published on the Blog. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

4.6 Maintain the Section's wiki, ensuring timely updates with agendas, program planning information, documents, publications, minutes of meetings of the officers and committee, and other useful information.

- [On going. \(1,4\)](#)

5. Strengthen the Section by pursuing measures to increase membership.

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Actions:

5.1 Promote membership in the Section, identifying which countries are under-represented and emphasizing a broader geographic representation of the Standing Committee.

- [On going. \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

5.2 Provide information on how to become a member of the Section on major collection development-related electronic discussion lists.

- [\(On going\) \(1,2,3,4\)](#)

5.3 Provide information on how to become a member of the Section on the website.

- [On going. \(1,2,4\)](#)

5.4 Maintain the policy that the Chair welcomes in writing all new Section members and at the annual conferences.

- [On going. \(3\)](#)

5.5 Join the IFLA programme "Adopt a student" as a Section. This programme allows us to work with and mentor a student as a member of the Section, to encourage their involvement in our Section and IFLA.

- [Review to see if this is possible for our Section. \(4\)](#)

APPENDIX: Continuing Issues Agenda

The Continuing Issues Agenda documents, for future reference and possible action, topics of continuing interest to the Standing Committee. See 1.3 of this Strategic Plan.

- A. The endangered species of print ([Completed with the Program 2012](#))
- B. Scholarly communication
- C. Open access ([2014 Program](#))
- D. Guidelines for digitization projects
- E. Electronic licensing issues and concerns ([Completed with the E-Resources Guidelines August 2012.](#)) (1)
- F. Developing and managing hybrid collections ([Completed with Satellite 2011](#))
- G. Possible cooperative projects within IFLA with [Serials](#), Copyright and Other Legal Matters and/or Preservation and Conservation
- H. Counting our digital assets
- I. Impact of economic recession on collection development ([Completed with Programme 2011](#))
- J. Storage and preservation of collections ([Completed with Satellite 2012](#))
- K. Collection and Buildings - issues related to space and physical/electronic collections ([Completed with Satellite 2014 with Buildings Section](#))
- L. Born digital collections ([2015 Program with A/V Section](#))
- M. Libraries as publishers of content ([2015 Program](#))
- N. Acquisitions – changing contexts
- O. Staffing issues – doing more with less staff
- P. Budgets and funding – prices, developing countries, funding, etc.
- Q. Collection Development issues related to LGBTQ communities ([Creation of LGBTQ SIG in 2013](#))

Adopted by the Standing Committee of the Acquisition and Collection
Development Section of IFLA (Division II), August 2014

Draft updated Joseph Hafner, October 14, 2014