



## Minutes of the Agricultural Libraries SIG Business Meeting

An open business meeting of IFLA Agricultural Libraries SIG held in Room No. C-122 of Greater Columbus Convention Centre, Columbus on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 during IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2016 in the Chairmanship of Dr. Ajay Pratap Singh (Convener of Agricultural Libraries Special Interest Group).

More than 20 persons have participated in the business meeting. Some of the participants are as follows:

1. Dr. Ajay Pratap Singh, India (Chair & Convener of Ag. Lib. SIG)
2. Prof Jim Mullins, USA (Chair, Sc. & Tech. Libraries Section)
3. Dr. Deva E. Reddy, USA
4. Ms. Jacinta Were, Kenya
5. Mr. Onan Mulumba, Uganda
6. Dr. Abdul Kader, USA
7. Dr. Maltesh Motebennir, India
8. Ms. Savitri Veerakoon, Sri Lanka
9. B.G.N. Kumarasingha, Sri Lanka
10. Patricid Oyler, USA
11. Dr. Florian Dickman, USA
12. Prof. Martin Kasselmann, USA
13. William Ferando
14. Mr. Sanjay Bihani, India
15. Mr. Peter Walton, Australia
16. Ms. Shamin Renwick, Trinidad and Tobago
17. Dr. Sushmita Chatopadhyay, India
18. Prof. Preeti Jain, Botswana

At starting and just after introducing the officers, members, and participants of the business meeting, Dr. Ajay Pratap Singh has presented the progress report of the Agricultural Libraries SIG and expressed the summary of the works done after the last WLIC 2015 at Cape Town, South Africa.

The Chairman/Convener informed the members about the development relating to the 'Proposal for new Agricultural Libraries Section', submitted by the SIG to the IFLA.

The Convener of SIG expressed his serious concern on the following issues:

- To involve maximum number of persons/IFLA members in SIG related activities,
- To develop a global team for the promotion of Agricultural Libraries/Information Centers and Agricultural Information professionals including informational workers, librarians, agricultural scientists and last but not the least farmers.
- To take some concrete initiative in the interest of Agricultural Information professionals.

For achieving the above mentioned objectives, the convener has proposed to constitute few committees involving library professionals in AgLib SIG, and to take up/address various important matters/issues of the Agricultural Libraries/professionals in a systematic manner.

The committee discussed in detail about the Action Plan for the next year, and decided to complete that before the next WLIC 2017 starts at Wroclaw, Poland. Regarding Action Plan for the next year (2016-17), members have presented their views and finally came up to the conclusion that following works/projects will be taken up as the Action Plan for 2016-17:

- A. Conduct a Global Survey for assessing the present condition of Agricultural Libraries/Librarians worldwide.
- B. Organize meeting or seminar or training program or workshops for promoting awareness and popularizing IFLA activities among Agricultural Librarians at various parts of the world, whereas it is feasible or possible.
- C. Work together for developing Guidelines or Standards or Toolkit for library professionals etc. for supporting as well as promoting the profession.

It is further decided to plan an open session for discussing worldwide research initiatives on agricultural libraries during WLIC 2017 at Wroclaw.

The Business meeting of Agricultural Libraries ended with the thanks to the Chair.

Date: 17 August 2016

Place: Columbus

(Dr. Ajay P. Singh)

Convener, Agricultural Libraries SIG