



Literacy and Reading Section  
**Annual Report**  
September 2009 – July 2010  
*Prepared by Ivanka Stricevic, Section's Chair*

**Scope:**

The Literacy and Reading Section provides a focal point for the study and discussion of literacy, reading and readers. It aims to stimulate leadership, research, good practice, information and exchange on the role of libraries in these issues. Through discussion, conferences, publications, its website, partnerships, training and special projects, the Section examines these activities within the cultures of both print and electronic media; and seeks to understand and support the basic rights and approaches of all citizens to access to information, knowledge and works of the imagination for personal and community learning, enjoyment and development.

**Membership:**

Membership status July 2010: 59 members

Standing Committee members: 15 members and 5 corresponding members

**Officers:**

*Chair/Treasurer:*

Ivanka Stricevic

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In June 2010 Gayner Eyre resigned and new Secretary Elena Corradini was elected and confirmed in August 2010. Also appointed as a Treasurer.

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**Meetings:**

Two SC meetings held in Gotheburg, August 2010: 12 SC members were present + 3 corresponding members + 10 observers and a special guest Liz Page, the IBBY executive director.

**Projects:**

- The IFLA Literacy and Reading section is developing a guidelines on *Using research to promote literacy and reading in libraries*. A draft of the text was discussed in August 2010 and call for contributions was issued to collect examples of good practice in three categories: sample research-based reading promotion programmes; research starting points and a list of relevant associations. Further work will be coordinated by the SC member Lesley Farmer. Final text is expected by the end of 2010 and translations follow.
  
- Under the *Memorandum of Understanding* a joint data base of reading promotion programmes and activities from all around the world was discussed during the year, in partnership with IBBY and coordinated by the Ch&YA Section. The data base will be placed under the IFLA Success Stories Database.

**Publications:**

- Information sharing and exchange through the Newsletter, web page, via e-mail, IFLA mailing list, distribution of information on special requests, etc.
- In 2009 the Newsletter won "The Best IFLA Newsletter Award".
- Newsletter - two issues in 2010 – editor Liekny Haga Indergaard (Norway)
- Section's leaflet updated continually.

## Conference Programme

### ***Pre-Conference With the Right to Read, Oslo, August 9, 2010***

The Section was co-sponsoring the Pre-Conference (Section's representative – Leikny Haga Indergaard). It has been very successful, with 125 participants from many countries, mostly of which from China (74), so that simultaneous interpretation was necessary. All papers and presentations are available on the web page.

<http://www.ifla.org/en/lsn/conferences>

### ***IFLA Conference in Gothenburg, August 14, 2010***

Session: “Libraries Promoting Reading in a Multicultural, Multilingual Society”, Gothenburg

- The three hours session was organised with the Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations; over 260 participants
- After the keynote, 6 presentation followed and the session finished with a short round table discussion and questions from the audience; simultaneous interpretation was provided
- Programme:
  - o *Introductions*: Ivanka Stricevic (Croatia), Mijin Kim (Canada)
  - o Keynote: Maija Berndtson (Finland): *Meaning of reading – reading for meaning*
  - o Ray Doiron, and Marlene Asselin (Canada): *Building a Culture for Reading in a Multicultural, Multilingual World*
  - o Ruth Fassbind-Eigenheer (Switzerland) *Intercultural library networking procedures in Switzerland: sharing material and knowledge*
  - o Jaime Campbell Naidoo, Patricia Montiel-Overall, Lucía González, Irania Macías Patterson (US) *Celebrating Culture, Reading, & Family Literacy @ the Library with the Latino Reading and Literacy Programs El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Día) and Noche de Cuentos*
  - o Briony Birdi (UK) *‘We are here because you were there’: minority ethnic genre fiction in UK public libraries*
  - o Ratna Bandyopadhyay, K.P.Majumder, Bithi Bose and Papri Sengupta (India) *“Come to your Library” : BLA Project for Promotion of Reading in West Bengal, India*
  - o Ingrid Atlestam and Randi Myhre (Sweden) *Reading — what to purchase, and why?*

### **Ongoing actions:**

- Participation in international events on behalf of Section
- The Section supports the International symposium *Reading link between generations: towards social solidarity*, to be held in Tunis, 23-25 March 2011 (leaflets in English, French and Arabic are distributed and the symposium is announced on the Section's web page and the Newsletter)

### **Programmes' planning for the IFLA Conference to be held in Puerto Rico 2011**

- The Literacy and Reading and National Libraries Sections are preparing a joint interactive 2 hours programme: call for papers issued
- The programme theme: *Beyond the United Nations Decade of Literacy: What Libraries Can Do*