



Serials and Other Continuing Resources

2004 IFLA General Conference and Council Buenos Aires

Minutes

1st session, Sunday, August 22

Attendance

SC Members

Karen Darling (University of Missouri-Columbia, USA)
Kathryn S. Ginanni (EBSCO Information Services, USA)
Helen Heinrich (Getty Research Library, USA)
Nina Khakhaleva (Russian State Library Moscow)
Ann Okerson (Yale University Library, USA)
Catherine Omont-Guilmar (Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris)
Simonetta Pasqualis (Università Degli Studi di Trieste, Italy)
Hildegard Schäffler (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München, Germany)
Edward Swanson (MINITEX Library Information Network, ~~University of Minnesota~~, USA)
Marie-Joelle Tarin (BIU Sorbonne Paris, France)

Observers

Eeva Murtomaa (Helsinki University Library, Finland)
Marta Loza (Argentina)
Ruth Haas (Harvard University)

Regrets

Elena Garcia-Puente Lillo (Biblioteca Nacional Madrid, Spain)
Elizabeth Gazdag (National Széchényi Library, Budapest, Hungary)
Frederick C. Lynden (Brown University Library, USA)
Barbara Sigrist (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Germany)
Françoise Pellé (Ex officio) (ISSN International Centre, Paris, France)

Absent

Paul Harwood (Swets Information Services, UK)
Idrisi Musa (Ministry of Works, Entebbe, Uganda)

1. Welcome and introductions

Edward Swanson welcomed all SC members and observers to the first session of the ~~Section on~~ Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section at Buenos Aires. Everyone introduced themselves. Edward confirmed that the name change was approved during the year.

2. Apologies for absence

For absent members see attendance lists for each of the two sessions.

3. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

4. Minutes of meetings at the 2003 IFLA General Conference and Council and matters arising

The minutes of the Berlin meeting were approved. Various ongoing projects were dealt with later in the agenda.

5. Financial report (E. Swanson)

Edward Swanson gave his financial report. In 2003 there was a positive balance of USD 550. The Section has been granted an administrative budget of USD 300 for 2004. The overall balance of USD 850 can be used for printing brochures, newsletters etc.

6. Chair's report (E. Swanson)

a) Information Coordinator

Edward Swanson reported that Fred Lynden resigned from his position as Information Coordinator during the year. Edward has not been able to find a replacement yet. The obligations of the Information Coordinator comprise editing the two annual newsletter editions as well as supplying material to the IFLA Web site, the latter being currently under review.

Elizabeth Gazdag had indicated that she would take on the position as Information Coordinator again if she received some assistance. Simonetta Pasqualis and Katy Ginanni agreed to help her with it.

The current newsletter has not been sent out to section members in paper form yet, although it was distributed to the Standing Committee members electronically and has been posted to IFLANET. For future issues it would be useful to have, e.g., country reports included.

b) Section program on Tuesday, August 24

Helen Heinrich agreed to write a report on the program. Edward Swanson brought copies of some of the abstracts, which were translated by various members of the section into IFLA languages, for distribution during the program.

7. Report on meetings of Governing Board and Professional Committee, August 20 (Edward Swanson)

Edward Swanson reported on the meetings of the Governing Board and the Professional Committee on August 20:

- All IFLA delegates were asked to bring an item typical of their home country for a raffle. The money drawn from this raffle will be used for travel grants. Each section has been provided with 200 tickets in order to sell as many as possible by Tuesday afternoon.
- By August 5, the end of preregistration, 2780 people from 122 countries had been registered, the strongest national groups being Argentina with 582 delegates and the USA with 404 participants. This can be regarded as a very positive result and certainly more than was anticipated.
- The conference themes for Oslo and Seoul are:
 - Oslo 2005: Libraries - A voyage of discovery
 - Seoul 2006: Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society
- For the best newsletter competition three finalists have been nominated by the Chair of the Professional Board, who will then choose the winner to be announced at the closing session.
- The Sections are encouraged to recruit membership.
- IFLA finances show a small positive balance, but there is a deficit for 2003 due to changes in Dutch accounting regulations.
- For future conferences Congrex will be used as professional organizing company.
- For Oslo 2005, 17 preconferences are scheduled. The number of preconferences will be more limited in the future and perhaps be restricted to one per division. Proposals for Seoul 2006 need to be handed in by March 2005.
- On Wednesday, August 25, Library Science students will be present and should be welcomed by everyone.
- The postal ballot on changes in the National Association Structure met with 90% approval, but only 25% of the eligible members actually voted. Institutions should therefore be encouraged to participate in future ballots.
- The new President Elect will continue with his predecessor's Brainstorming sessions during the general conference on his theme "partnerships". The Divisions were asked to send volunteer moderators for the discussion tables.
- The new Secretary General has only an initial 3-years' contract due to Dutch regulations for Non-EU citizens.
- Eight printed copies of the newsletters are still required by the IFLA Headquarters. In addition, any demand of section members concerning hard copies must be satisfied. It is therefore not yet possible to rely on the cost-saving e-version only, but the general policy on this issue has become more lenient.

8. IFLA Booth schedule

Each Section has been assigned a particular time slot during which it should be present at the IFLA Booth. The Serials Section will be on duty on Tuesday, 11 a.m.-12 noon. Edward Swanson, Simonetta Pasqualis, and Hildegard Schäffler agreed to be present.

9. Section reviews

A general review of all sections is currently being prepared. The review is to take place within the next three years. Edward Swanson volunteered the Serials Section for the first round. The outcome of this review is open at the moment, but it might result in a more efficient sections structure.

Edward Swanson distributed a questionnaire which sections have to fill in. He will collect as much data as possible and will ask section members to contribute if necessary. One of the questions is e.g. how many people attended section programs. Although this figure is usually discussed during the conferences, it has not necessarily been recorded in the past.

As far as the work of the Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section is concerned, it should certainly be pointed out in the review that serials work as a key topic with its combination of many different themes – thus bordering on a number of other sections – must be represented in a section of its own.

10. Program planning for 2005 General Conference

It was generally observed that the new conference structure with the shortened time slots are bound to be too short. Time slots can only be extended by organizing joint programs with other sections.

A working title for the Oslo program was agreed on: “Changing business models of serials work”. Since it is too late for partnering for 2005, the Serials Section will begin with a two-hour program in Oslo and continue the topic jointly with the Acquisitions and Collection Development Section in Seoul as a four-hour time slot. Ann Okerson and Hildegard Schäffler will take charge of the program and welcome any suggestions and help from the section members. Edward Swanson talked to Pentti Vattulainen, the Chair of Acquisitions and Collection Development, during the Buenos Aires conference.

Simonetta Pasqualis raised the topic of serials in the humanities as a possible future topic. Aspects would e.g. be long publication intervals or print-only availability.

The topic of archiving continuing resources which was also suggested has been covered by other sections in the past.

Other sections, e.g. the Newspaper Section, hold midwinter meetings. It was discussed whether this would be of any interest for the Serials Section. Although such a meeting might be useful, not everyone will find it easy to find the time or cover the travel expenses.

The section has a current list of special advisors, which are inactive at the moment unless the Section approaches them. It was agreed that no action was required at the moment.

11. Strategic plans for 2006-2007

Formulating the strategic plans for 2006-2007 will be a topic for the Section meetings in Oslo, but the discussion within the group will be started by Edward Swanson during the coming year. Any plans for future preconferences should also be listed in the strategic plans (cf. 15. below).

12. Section brochure

Katy Ginanni will get in touch with Fred Lynden about revising the section brochure (also cf. the Berlin minutes). It should be finished by December and then distributed amongst different Section members for translation. Edward Swanson will find out about how and where to print the brochure and about how many copies are required.

12a. Other

a) Serials Manual (Catherine Omont-Guilnard)

Catherine Omont-Guilnard reported that the translation of the Basic Serials Management Handbook into French would be finished soon. It is based on the first edition and will be put up on IFLANET when it is completed.

The author, Judith Szilvassy, is currently revising the first edition in Hungarian. Catherine will keep the Section informed about the progress of the 2nd edition. IFLA has expressed an interest in publishing the Handbook as a volume in one of the IFLA series or possibly as a stand-alone volume.

Simonetta Pasqualis confirms that an Italian translation would be of interest.

b) IFLA Publications

In general, IFLA is interested in putting out publications (cf. a) above). The Sections are asked to make recommendations for publication in the IFLA Journal from section programs. For putting up presentations on IFLANET, PowerPoint presentations are not accepted, but they have to be turned into actual papers.

c) Serials Review

Katy Ginanni is column editor for Serials Review and as such is looking for interviews with serials librarians. The journal itself is looking for an addition from outside the USA to the editorial board. Members of the editorial board are required to suggest articles for the journal.

d) Links for serials resource page

Helen Heinrich will continue to look after the serials links section. All members are encouraged to provide her with more contributions from different countries.

2nd session, Saturday, August 28

Attendance

SC Members

Karen Darling (University of Missouri-Columbia, USA)
Kathryn S. Ginanni (EBSCO Information Services, USA)
Helen Heinrich (Getty Research Library, USA)
Nina Khakhaleva (Russian State Library Moscow)
Catherine Omont-Guilmard (Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris)
Hildegard Schäffler (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München, Germany)
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Absent

Paul Harwood (Swets Information Services, UK)
Idrisi Musa (Ministry of Works, Entebbe, Uganda)

13. Conference Review

a) Section program

The program showed good attendance and was appreciated by the speakers. The papers also fitted together quite well. Technical problems at the beginning led to a delay so that unfortunately no questions were possible at the end. A broader timeframe would have been necessary.

Although it was the general conference policy to encourage papers to be held in Spanish, it turned out to be a problem that all papers were held in Spanish with no SI available. For future programs more lead time will be necessary to get translations of more than the abstracts done. Helen Heinrich will write a report for the newsletter, but for linguistic reasons needs the assistance of written copies, which will be requested from the speakers.

The written papers will also have to be reviewed for publication recommendation. Françoise Pellé will be asked to help with this. Perhaps several papers could be published or drawn together to form an IFLA publication.

b) General remarks on the conference

- Including on-site registration there were approx. 3000 attendants, a considerable number given the original estimation. On the whole, a positive feedback can be given on the conference.
- The opening session and the opening parties were viewed rather critically by the Section members. The cultural evening was appreciated by some, criticized by others. Katy Ginanni reported of the exhibition that it was crowded at the beginning, especially during the opening, but attendance slowed down considerably during the conference. In Oslo conference site and exhibition will be in two different places, which may turn out to be problematic, just as it was with having many programs in the Sheraton Hotel in Buenos Aires.
- The raffle was quite successful, but the Section recommended that it should perhaps not be done every year.
- The day of the library visits was changed at short notice, which led to a conflict with some programs. Generally, even though program application forms provide for naming sections with which the particular program should not conflict, some overlap seems unavoidable.

Edward Swanson thanked the Section on behalf of the Governing Board for its contribution to the success of the conference.

14. ISBD Series Study Group

The status of the ISBD Series Study Group is unclear.

15. Remaining business from first session and other business

a) Programs for Oslo and Seoul

Edward Swanson confirmed that the Acquisitions and Collection Development Section was interested in setting up a joint program for Seoul in 2006.

b) Program evaluation

It has been observed that other sections distribute evaluation sheets during their programs. It was agreed that this practice should be adopted by the Serials Section, but perhaps not necessarily every year.

c) Multilingual glossary of serials terms (cf minutes of Berlin meeting)

At the Berlin meeting the idea had been brought up to work on a multilingual glossary of serials terms. The ALA Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALA/ALCTS) has worked on such a glossary in English, which is not yet available on the internet. Edward Swanson and Karen Darling, who is a board member of ALCTS, will contact the responsible people (e.g. Charles Wilt, the executive director of ALA/ALCTS) and ask whether this glossary could be used as a base for the English part of the Sections' Work.

Katy Ginanni reported that Ebsco was looking at such a glossary which is still a work in progress.

d) Name change of newsletter?

With the name change of the Section the newsletter will also have to change its title and ISSN. Any ideas other than “Newsletter of the IFLA Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section” should be sent to Edward Swanson before October 15. It can then be discussed via e-mail and voted by early November.

e) Satellite meetings for Seoul or Durban?

The suggestion was made to hold a satellite meeting either before the Seoul or Durban conferences. A possible topic could be a workshop on basic serials training as was suggested some years ago in a Section meeting in Berlin. For Africa in particular it would be very useful to have the French version of the handbook available by then. Possible venues in 2007 might be the Alexandria Library in Egypt or Johannesburg (e.g. Ebsco office as main contact). Another topic suggested was AACR3. Generally, it is important to have strong local support when preparing such an event.

f) Other

IFLA is discussing to add Chinese and Arabic as official IFLA languages.

16. Visit by President Kay Raseroka and President Elect Alex Byrne during the 1st session meeting

Kay Raseroka and Alex Bynre asked the Serials Section for its assistance. The Marketing Section will try to work out what information and knowledge in today’s society means and what role libraries can play in it. The main purpose is to counter the ideas of politicians that libraries are still solely book-oriented and have not arrived yet in the information society. Serials especially as one of the most rapidly changing areas within library work will be able to demonstrate some of the changes that have occurred. They are looking for success stories, e.g. how electronic access has removed barriers for users, although obviously serials work is also associated with many problems. This input is required until the end of the year.

It was discussed during the second meeting how this could be approached. Karen Darling offered to coordinate this project, especially by doing some literature search und pulling together material from publications, citations, etc. Hildegard Schäffler agreed to help with this. Any suggestions to be sent to Karen are welcome.

Hildegard Schäffler
Secretary