



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Statistics & Evaluation Section Minutes of the First Standing Committee meeting Milan, Saturday, 22 August, 2009, 11.30 am.

1. Welcome and introductions

Colleen Cook, chair of the Committee, welcomed delegates and observers.

Attendance: Colleen Cook (USA, Chair); Michael Heaney (UK, Secretary), Frankie Wilson (UK), Wanda Dole (USA), Michele Farrell (USA), Antoni Feliu (Spain), Santi Romero (Spain, observer), Vesna Injac (Serbia), Britt Omstedt (Sweden) [Observer], Cecilia Natvig (Sweden) [Observer], Markku Laitinen (Finland), Elisabeth Lemau (France), Sebastian Mundt (Germany), Ulla Wimmer (Germany), Svetlana Menshikova (Russia), Tord Høivik (Norway), Roswitha Poll (Germany), Maria Cassella (Italy)

Apologies had been received from Denis Cordazzo (France), Sue Henczel (Australia), Eric Davies (UK), Pierre Meunier (Canada), Hongxia Zhang (China)

The Chair presented Certificates to those leaving the Committee at this Congress, thanking them for their contribution to the work of IFLA.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda was adopted with agreement that item 11 would be taken after item 7.a.i.

3. Adoption of the Minutes from the Standing Committee meetings in Quebec (published in the December 2008 Section Newsletter).

Adopted (proposed Michele Farrell, seconded Wanda Dole)

4. Elections

The Chair explained the process. She was eligible for re-election but the retiring Secretary Michael Heaney was not.

- a. Chair. Colleen Cook was nominated by Wanda Dole and was re-elected by acclamation.
- b. Secretary: Ulla Wimmer was nominated by Tord Høivik and was elected by acclamation.
- c. Appointment of Treasurer: the role is now combined with that of Secretary.
- d. Appointment of Information Coordinator: Markku Laitinen was re-appointed.

The Chair congratulated Markku Laitinen in his spectacular job in making the new web page a real presence on the internet.

5. Report from the meetings of the Professional and Coordinating Boards

Members were reminded to wear their badges at all times in the conference venue but not outside, and to pick up the voting papers if they had voting rights. Printing services were available near the exhibition area.

The new divisional structure was explained. Co-ordinating Boards had been abolished and sections reorganised into five divisions. Statistics and Evaluation is in Division IV, 'Support of the Profession', to be chaired by Michael Heaney. Divisions will hold a Leadership Forum during each conference and officers should attend this.

The decision to move the 2010 conference to Gothenburg was explained. It had become clear that the local financial support necessary to stage the conference would not be forthcoming, and a decision had to be made quickly to allow the substitute venue time to prepare and to allow an announcement to be made during this conference. Gothenburg was a candidate city for 2012 and had been assessed. Support was assured and the Swedish committee had indicated their readiness and ability to bring the plans forward.

In response to a question, Michael Heaney indicated that the conference was expected to provide a modest profit, but the scale of expenditure was such that failure of a conference would potentially bankrupt IFLA.

The Chair reminded members to seek to identify papers to nominate for publication in IFLA Journal, though publication of nominated papers was not guaranteed.

Tord Høivik indicated that there could be more possibilities on the web site.

The Chair drew attention to session 161 IFLA Publications at which new publications will be presented including the Sections own Library Statistics for the Twenty-First Century World, the proceedings of last year's conference in Montreal.

6. Treasurer's report

The accounts were presented:

1. Administrative funds

2008	Income	Expenditure
Section grant	€10.00	
Planning – PM8 conference (travel)		€143.65
Brochure/ Newsletter design		€400.00
(Revert to IFLA HQ)		€63.35

Total	€10.00	€10.00
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2009	Income	Expenditure
Section grant	€10.00	
(Available)		€10.00
Total	€10.00	€10.00

2 Project funds: Global statistics phase I

2008	Income	Expenditure
Funds allocated	€10,000.00	
Planning meeting Montreal January 2008		€2,587.28
Survey analysis		€1,000.00
Conference support		€2,480.00
Conference attendance – organisers		€658.33
Conference attendance – speakers		€406.44
Follow-up meeting The Hague November 2008		€1,136.22
(Revert to IFLA HQ)		€731.73
Total	€10,000.00	€10,000.00

3 Project funds: Global statistics phase II

2009	Income	Expenditure
Funds allocated	€3,000.00	
(Available)		€3,000.00
Total	€3,000.00	€3,000.00

The Secretary reminded members that the Section received €10 in administrative funds but funds not expended reverted to IFLA at the year's end.

7. Activities of the Standing Committee

a. Projects

i. Global statistics – UNESCO

- See Report October 2008

Roswitha Poll rehearsed the background to the project: the section had used its contacts in Montreal to open a dialogue with the UNESCO Institute for Statistics to develop (with ISO) an up to date statistical questionnaire, which had been piloted in Latin American in 2007 and the results

reported at the Montreal IFLA post-conference last year and published as IFLA Publication No 138.

One outcome was the recognition of the need to build capacity to collect and use statistics in nations around the world.

The project group (Michael Heaney, Roswitha Poll and Pierre Meunier, working with Simon Ellis of UIS) had met with IFLA Senior Policy Advisor Stuart Hamilton in The Hague in November 2008 to plan next steps.

[Item 11 was taken at this point]

11. Global Statistics Phase II

The meeting in the Hague had several outcomes:

- A draft Library Statistics Manifesto (circulated)
- A draft outcomes survey to complement the statistical questionnaire (circulated)
- A costing for a full Global Statistics capacity building programme (predicated upon the provision of external funding)
- A project bid submitted to IFLA containing (1) some seed funding if the full funding did not come through (2) funding for advocacy for the Manifesto

Only the second element as succeeded as a project bid.

However, IFLA's Senior Policy Advisor had requested that the capacity building be supplied in a different form. It was likely that money would made be available to library associations to purchase capacity building and advocacy training in various areas, and a one-day statistics programme was required. Up to €10,000 could be made available to gather a group of experts together to devise the programme, which was required by the end of the year.

The programme could utilise the questionnaire and survey developed for Gobal statistics.

It was noted that the members of the Phase I project were all stepping down from the Committee, though they could be available to advise in the expert workshop, and the connections with ISO and UIS were important. Members of the current committee would be required to take the project forward. A meeting had been arranged with Stuart Hamilton on 25 August at 8:30.

There was discussion on some detailed elements of the survey proposal and the differences between a library survey and a street survey (capturing non-use of libraries). Tord Høivik pointed out the importance of testing any package produced.

The Committee agreed that the working group should consist of Tord Høivik (convener), Colleen Cook, Antoni Feliu. These with Michael Heaney and Roswitha Poll would meet with IFLA's Senior Policy Adviser on the Tuesday. Michael Heaney, Roswitha Poll and Pierre Meunier would continue to participate in the work of the group, to build on established contacts and for continuity.

It was also agreed that additional expertise should be sought for the development of the work package.

(The following results were reported after the meeting with Stuart Hamilton):

The work will consist of a one-day workshop, i.e. ca. 25 pages including powerpoint-slides. It is aimed on statistics for library associations as a basis for advocacy, and for the libraries they serve. The main goal is raising awareness for the use and necessity of simple library statistics for advocacy and community building. The timeframe is as follows:

- December 2009: Expert workshop in the Hague (incl. members from target countries), outline/framework of workshop
- March 2010: Draft version of workshop
- April 2010: Pilot workshops conducted by IFLA e.g. in Botswana and Latin America, revision of draft
- May 2010: final version

Contact person for the project at HQ is Fiona Bradley.

Additional actions:

- put the Library Statistics Manifesto on Website - a.s.a.p. - Markku Laitinen
- go for UNESCO approval of the manifesto
- report on Phase I project to IFLA HQ– due by Mid-Nov. - Michael Heaney

ii. Library schools

The project has lapsed and is now off the agenda.

b. Publications

i. Newsletter

The Newsletter is much improved by the input of the Chair's web designer at Texas A&M. It is scheduled twice a year. Markku Laitinen said that more content was needed and asked all members to contribute.

ii. Homepage

The Section's home page is much better; Markku Laitinen has been working closely with Sharon Alderete at Texas A&M. There is now a lot of information and many links. The links are too numerous to keep track and Markku Laitinen asked that members help him keep links up to date.

iii. Brochure

The Section brochure had not been revised recently. It was useful to have one to distribute at sessions. Frankie Wilson volunteered to review it.

A question was asked about areas of the world underrepresented in the section membership. The membership list is available and does show gaps in representation.

c. Programming for Milan Conference – Housekeeping

Agreed that Michele Farrell and Frankie Wilson should count attendance at session 92 on Monday; Maria Cassella would count at session 127 on Tuesday; and Markku Laitinen and Ulla Wimmer would count at session 216 on Thursday.

8. Proposal for a joint project to develop performance measures for libraries serving print disabled people

The section would like to develop indicators for special services e.g. producing Braille- or audio-books from printed materials. A draft proposal will be provided by Helen Brazier from IFLA-Section of libraries for print-disabled people. The Committee agreed to proceed with the proposal as circulated. Maria Cassella and Sebastian Mundt agreed to act as the Section Representatives. The Secretary would pass their names to the Libraries Serving Print Disabled People Section and await their response.

[Note: the proposal was also approved by the Libraries Serving Print Disabled People Section]

Actions:

- Section representatives: Maria Cassella, Sebastian Mundt
- draft proposal from Helen Brazier due by Mid-Nov.
- proposal to Mike Heaney and HQ by end of Nov.

9. Report on 8th Northumbria Conference Florence

The conference had gone very well with a majority of excellent papers, well received. However, the Editorial Board of the Conference had agreed that the next meeting would be held independently of IFLA, in York in 2011.

2nd Meeting

Milan, Wednesday, August 26th, 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm

Attendants:

Committee Members:

Colleen Cook (chair)

Wanda Dole

Michele Farrell

Antoni Feliu

Michael Heaney

Vesna Injac

Markku Laitinen

Elisabeth Lemau

Svetlana Menshikova

Sebastian Mundt

Frankie Wilson

Ulla Wimmer (secretary)

Observers:

Angela Zetterlund

Cecilia Natvig

Michiel Moll

Britt Omstadt

Carlos Manjarrez

Axel Ermert

Sinikka Luokkanen

10. Data for continuing resources

IFLA-Section on Series and other Continuing Resources is planning a one-day satellite conference in 2010 on usage of serials (location not yet confirmed).

They suggest co-sponsorship by SES. Committee members agree that cooperation will consist of

- giving intellectual, content and planning advice (speakers, etc.)
- giving the name of the section as a co-sponsor.

Results of the pre-conference could be reported at e-metrics SIG-meeting in Gothenburg.

(11. was taken after 7)

12. Strategic Plan 2010-2011

The existing strategic plan has to be revised and updated by the current projects:

- include: development of a work package curriculum on library statistics for library associations
- include: project with section of libraries serving print disabled people
- add new communication forms e.g. blogs to relevant items

Actions:

- Draft and status update - Colleen Cook
- submit to HQ by End of Nov.

13. Review of Milan Conference

Section Activities in Milan:

1. Joint Session: Statistics for Cultural Heritage (ca. 200 attendants): The session had a good and logical structure. Future Planning should allow for more time for discussion

2. e-metrics special interest group (ca. 100 attendants, 75 enrolled for a mailing-list). Good presentations and lively discussions. A good format has to be found to foster discussion in subsequent meetings (e.g. working groups, “ignite”-format with short presentations etc.) Watch mailing list for interesting topics, participants and amount of traffic. Sebastian Mundt is appointed co-convenor for the SIG.
3. Section session “Statistics on the Agenda” (ca. 90 attendants - no review, took place the following day)

Which paper to choose for the IFLA-Journal will be discussed in the Statev-mailing-list.

Actions:

- Co-convenor of e-metrics SIG: Sebastian Mundt
- submit suggestion for paper to HQ by Mid-Nov. - all/Ulla Wimmer

14. Program planning for Gothenburg WLIC 2010

SES is planning the following activities in 2010:

1. possibly co-sponsorship of Serials section pre-conference (see 10)
2. possibly report on project with print disabled section (see 8) in that sections’ slot
3. SIG e-metrics meeting (2-hour slot) (see 13.2.)
4. SES 2-hour slot on impact measurement (see below 14.1.)

Off-site one day workshop on library statistics based on the work package(see below 14.2.)

14.1. SES 2-hour slot

Preferred plan is a session on the global impact study by the Bill and Melinda Gates-Foundation with 3-4 papers from different countries that are involved in that study. Contact persons: Michele Farrell / Carlos Manjarez. A Call for Papers is mandatory.

Alternative plan is a session on methodologies for non-quantitative evaluation measures. Another alternative would be a “showcase”-session on statistics in various fields of library work (e.g. libraries for the print disabled project and Serials pre-conference)

Actions:

- contact gobal impact study project
- issue cfp - a.s.a.p. -

14.2. Off-site one-day workshop on library statistics

- The workshop will be based on the work package for the capacity building workshops developed by then.
- It will be on one of the main conference days (no pre or post).
- There should be ca. 5 parallel workshops so that ca. 100 attendants can be accomodated.
- Workshop languages should be English, French, Spanish and possibly other IFLA-Languages
- The workshop should be promoted to Management of Library Associations Section and National Libraries Section to enhance attendance

Actions:

- General planning: Tord Hoyvik, Wanda Dole, Colleen Cook, Ulla Wimmer
- Organisation: Frankie Wilson
- First step: find a suitable venue in Gothenburg.
- Contact persons: Angela Zetterlund and Cecilia Natvig

15. Preliminary Planning for Puerto Rico WLIC 2011 – deferred**16. E-metrics SIG – see 13.2****17. Programme Planning for 9th Northumbria Conference, York 2012 – deferred****18. Report on members activities**

Michael Heaney took part in a European Expert Meeting on Book and Library Statistics, 7 November 2008. It took place under the umbrella of the Tiele Foundation, as part of Amsterdam's programme as World Book Capital City, with publishers, librarians and booksellers. There was intense discussion but so far no immediate action. There is a similar activity by UNESCO and on 17 June and 10 September 2008 he participated at IFLA's request in International Book Statistics meetings sponsored by UNESCO with IPA, IBF and IFLA; the result of which is consultant's report providing a framework for book statistics and further work in various interest groups; however funding for the next steps is not yet available.

OCLC undertook data-mining of their databases concerning diversity of languages, origins and topics of materials included. Data is available for analysis on request. (Contact: Michael Heaney).