



## IFLA - Information Technology Section

### Meetings in Durban 2007

#### Minutes

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Standing Committee Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2007</b>
--

#### **Presiding Officers:**

Reinhard Altenhöner – Chair; Hanna de Vries - Secretary

#### **Standing Committee members present:**

Edmund Balnaves, Frank Cervone, Sally McCallum, Alenka Kavčič-Čolić, Catherine Lupovici, Eva Müller, Takashi Nagatsuka, Zhixiong Zhang, Gwen Zilm.

#### **Apologies for absence received from:**

Noha Adly, Nazha Hachad, Mary E. Jackson, Jagtar Singh, Robin Fortelius. Alexeis Garcia Perez, Karen Hunt, Belén LLera Cermeño, Dawei Wei.

#### **Other Standing Committee members absent:**

Hilde Hoegaas, Wei Liu, Wynand van der Walt, Gill Hamilton, Cindy Hill, Eli Youmba, Hee-kyung Yoo.

#### **Guests:**

Magdy Nagi (on behalf of Noha Adly), Bin Wu (on behalf of Dawei Wei), Eva Costander-Hulden (on behalf of Robin Fortelius), Rebecca Cevaha, Faribovz Khosyavi, Patrick Danowski.

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed the members, especially the new members, and visitors. Each person introduced him/herself.

#### **2. Seoul and the past year**

The SC looks back on a successful conference in Seoul.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the 2006 meeting in Seoul were accepted as posted through a motion that was seconded and approved.

#### **4. Changes in the SC**

The Chair explains the changes in the membership of the Standing Committee. Marko Tenkanen, Wynand van der Walt and Mats Herder left the SC in between the conferences for professional or personal reasons. Hanna de Vries and Sally McCallum are leaving because their terms have ended. Hanna de Vries has chosen not to be re-elected. The places are taken by Edmund Balnaves, Eva Müller, Frank Cervone, Alexeis Garcia Perez, Karen Hunt, Belén Llrera Cermeño, Dawei Wei, Hee-kyung Yoo, Cindy Hill and Alenka Kavčič-Čolić.

#### **5. Financial Report**

Reinhard Altenhöner reported that we had a small balance last year; a remnant of the old financing system which was used to pay the printed newsletter of July 2006. Funds are now handled centrally. The SC applied for some money for a project and for a brochure. However, the project was not approved and the brochure was not published – as nobody volunteered to write it – so no money was spent.

#### **6. ICABS**

Sally McCallum reported on ICABS (the *IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards*). She drew special attention of the meeting to a number of items. The July report is posted on the ICABS website.

#### **7. eIFLnet**

The Chair reported on the eIFLnet workshop he attended on library software and training programs for developing countries. This issue is also relevant for the SC; IFLA can be used as an engine for new ideas in support of eIFLnet's intentions. eIFL is considering Greenstone. Web-based software is easier to use, but internet connections are often a problem in such countries. Edmund Balnaves mentioned an Australian cooperative project which may be relevant. He will give details in the form of a white paper. Patrick Danowski will send a link to the relevant information. Reinhard Altenhöner will attend a meeting on Sunday.

#### **8. Report on ITS activities of the last year.**

The activities included:

- Preparing two newsletters; the one in March was distributed electronically only; as well as the second one in July. Hanna has switched to the software Microsoft Office Publisher for the Newsletter. This has made it easier to compile.
- The Chair and the secretary were involved in preparing the sessions for Durban. Other members helped with the selection of papers. The ITS is involved in a session with the sections National Libraries and ICABS.
- A project proposal was formulated on the evaluation of digital libraries and sent to IFLA. However, the project was not approved. It is decided that the proposal will be circulated among the SC members. Together we will try to formulate a new proposal which will be sent to IFLA for a second chance.

#### **Durban**

#### **9. Digital libraries**

The SC discussed whether all the issues dealt with in this SC all deal with "the digital library"

or not. Is the current name of the SC still the most appropriate? Some think that IT is too narrow a name for the variety of issues dealt with and does not reflect the prevalence of topics around digital libraries and library 2.0. After some discussion a small ad hoc working group was formed to discuss this further during the conference and present a proposal for a name change. If the name is changed, the "scope" and ITS strategy statement will also need re-phrasing.

#### **10. Coordinating Board**

- Hanna de Vries reported on the meeting of the Coordinating Board for Division VI.
- Everybody needs to wear their badges during all conference activities.
- The paper we selected for publication last year was published indeed. We can select one again this year.
- A special PC hearing will be devoted to discuss the IFLA professional structure on Sunday. Some members of the ITS will attend the meeting. Ideas on this can be passed on to Nancy Gwinn before Sunday.
- IFLA has requested the help of experienced members for renewing the IFLA web.
- New and old Officers are asked to attend the special instructional sessions.

#### **11. Pre-conference**

Reinhard Altenhöner, Elie Youmba and Nazha Hachad were involved in the preparation and realization of the Pre-conference that ITS held in Dakar, together with the Library Management "Managing technologies and library automated systems in developing countries: open source versus commercial options". It was a well attended and successful workshop.

**12. Programs at Durban.** The ITS is involved in two sessions during the Durban conference. Reinhard Altenhöner worked with the section National Libraries for their session. We supplied a paper which was proposed originally for our own session. Hanna organized the call for papers, the selection of papers, and the contacts with the speakers of the SC IT session. The ITS sessions will be on Wednesday.

Please see the Newsletter for more information on all these sessions.

#### **13. Officers**

Reinhard Altenhöner is re-elected as Chair. Alenka Kavčič Čolić is elected as Secretary. Edmund Balnaves volunteers to act as Information Coordinator.

#### **14. Discussion group / Special Interest Group Library 2.0 – Web 2.0**

Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 form part of about 10 session presentations during IFLA in Durban. It is obviously a hot topic for many librarians. To bring all these ideas together is proposed to form a virtual discussion group. This may lead to a joint session in Canada next year. A pre or post conference in Canada might also be interesting, but it is too late for that now. Patrick Danowski will start a wiki/blog. He will write a short memo on the purpose of this SI group which will be supported by the SC IT. Reinhard Altenhöner will take this to the CB. Reinhard Altenhöner, Zhixiong Zhang, Catherine Lupovici, Edmund Balnaves and Eva Müller will join this SIG.

**15. Social meeting:** It is decided to meet for lunch on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, after the SC meeting

The meeting will be continued on Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**16.** The Chair closes the meeting.

Hanna de Vries  
Outgoing Secretary, IT Section

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Standing Committee Meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2007

### **Presiding Officers:**

Reinhard Altenhöner – Chair; Edmund Balnaves, - Information Coordinator; Alenka Kavčič-Čolić - Secretary

### **Standing Committee members present:**

Frank Cervone, Karen Hunt, Catherine Lupovici, Eva Müller, Eli Youmba, Zhixiong Zhang, Gwen Zilm.

### **Apologies for absence received from:**

Noha Adly, Robin Fortelius, Alexeis Garcia Perez, Jagtar Singh, Belén Llera Cermeño, Takashi Nagatsuka.

### **Other Standing Committee members absent:**

Gill Hamilton, Cindy Hill, Hee-Kyung Yoo, Wynand van der Walt, Dawei Wei.

### **Guests:**

Vicki Coleman, Per Cullhed, Patrick Danowski, Michelle Rago, Hilde van Wijngaarden, Bin Wu (on behalf of Dawei Wei),

## **1. Plans for IFLA Conference in Quebec 2008**

Several ideas for IT sessions in Quebec, Canada, 2008 were presented by Reinhard Altenhöner, Hilde van Wijngaarden, Per Cullhed, and Edmund Balnaves. The SC members agreed in the preparation of following topics for IFLA Quebec 2008:

- 1.1. Shared IT session:** A shared session with the Preservation and Conservation Section (PCS) of four hours will be jointly organized: ITS and PCS will have two hours each dedicated to specific topics. In this regard, it was suggested to focus the session into two relevant topics for PCS and ITS, i.e:
- o infrastructure oriented topics and
  - o analyses of physical carriers of digital data
- there was a suggestion made by the Academic and Research Libraries Section to include research data, but it would be difficult to get another additional time slot. So it was decided to report this to the section.

**Actions:** Six volunteers for the organization and preparation of the joint ITS/PCS sessions meeting were elected in order to attract lecturers and revise their contributions:

- Reinhard Altenhöner,
- Vicki Coleman,
- Eva Müller,
- Gwen Zilm,
- Per Cullhed (as chair of the PCS)
- Michelle Rago will propose an additional colleague from the Library of Congress

- 1.2. Special IT session:** the session topic proposed by Edmund Balnaves was accepted: *Distributed deployment of library services for small and special libraries*. The idea is to discuss how to deploy services to small and special libraries to facilitate development of digital services and extend interoperability with the global digital library. Some success

stories could be also presented.

**Actions:** *the Chair will inform the Professional committee about ITS proposal. Four volunteers were elected for the organization and preparation of this session:*

- *Edmund Balnaves,*
- *Karen Hunt,*
- *Patrick Danowski, and*
- *Bin Wu.*

## **2. Milan 2009**

There was an overall consensus between ITS members to organize a satellite meeting preceding Milan IFLA conference in 2009. Preferably it would take place in Florence, however, possibilities to organize it in Ljubljana, Slovenia, still exist. The topic of the meetings will be: *Emerging trends in technology: libraries between Web 2.0, semantic web and search technology.* This topic is intended to encompass all the results of technological developments that will be more transparent in two years, which include digital library developments and all Web 2.0 applications that could affect or influence the user services and different types of use of the digital library. In the opinion of some of the ITS members it would be necessary to include more specialized articles. A compromise could be done by dividing the meeting in two days, offering some kind of tutorial with basic knowledge of participants on the first day and a kind of workshop on the second day. In this way it will be possible to attract a wider audience.

**Actions:** *the Chair will inform the Professional committee about the interest of the ITS to organize a pre-conference meeting. The following members and attendees accepted to volunteer in the preparation of this meeting:*

- *Reinhard Altenhöner*
- *Frank Cervone*
- *Vicki Coleman*
- *Patrick Danowski*
- *Alenka Kavčič-Čolić*
- *Catherine Lupovici*
- *Eva Müller*
- *Bin Wu*
- *Zhixiong Zhang*

## **3. Change of the name of the ITS**

In continuation to the discussion on the name of ITS a group of 5 ITS members joined an informal meeting during the conference in order to prepare a proposal for a new section name. Three different names which mostly reflect the activities and operation of the section were proposed:

**Information Technology Innovation & Digital Libraries**

or

**Information Technology: Digital Libraries and Technology Innovation**

or

**Information Technology: Digital Libraries Services and Technology Innovation for Libraries**

The three proposed names preserved the name of Information Technology. During the conference a feedback from 15 participants was received, among whom 13 agreed on the change of the section. The majority of them agreed with the name of **Information Technology:**

**Digital Libraries and Technology Innovation.** However, during the IFLA section a new interest group on Digital Libraries was formed, which diminished the possibilities that a new name with the same terms would be accepted by the Governing Board. It is not clear yet what will be the focus of this interest group, whether political and technical aspects of digitisation or broader, digital services, electronic resources, intellectual property of digital objects, metadata etc.

Additionally it was noted that the name of the section should be shorter. So it was proposed and accepted to rename the section with "Library Technology and Innovation".

***Actions:** the Chair will propose the change of the ITS name to the professional committee.*

#### **4. Change of ITS Strategy**

Along with the new proposed ITS name which reflects its operation, it is time to renew the ITS strategic plan for the period 2007-2009. Two main changes were added and it was suggested to open the discussion between the SC members.

***Actions:** The draft of the new strategic plan will be prepared by Reinhard Altenhöner, Edmund Balnaves, Frank Cervone, and Alenka Kavčič-Čolić. It will then be distributed to the SC members for discussion.*

#### **5. Proposal and support of special interest groups by ITS**

Patrick Danowski has proposed and initiated the formation of a new special interest group Library 2.0. Ms Lupovici has taken part in a presidential working group for the development of guidelines for digital libraries. As an outcome of this initiative it could happen that another Special Interest Group for digital libraries will be initiated. Some of the members of the ITS suggested that supporting the new special interest group for Library 2.0 could confirm the new orientation of ITS on digital libraries. The SC members agreed in giving support to this special interest group. If there is a need to support the special interest group of Digital Libraries ITS will provide this similar.

#### **6. IFLA Newsletter**

Edmund Balnaves will prepare a joint report on the sessions organized in Durban for the IFLA Newsletter. In this task volunteers were designed for the preparation of the following reports:

- Karen Hunt will prepare a report on the session *National libraries and resource discovery strategies - local, national and global*, which was organized jointly by National Libraries Section, ICABS and ITS.
- Patrick Danowski will prepare a report on the Education and Training session from the perspective of IT.
- Edmund Balnaves will prepare a report on ITS session: *Second Life for libraries: Let's give users what they want: user driven library services.*

#### **7. IFLA Journal**

The Chair proposed three articles from IT section to be included in the IFLA Journal:

- *PATRICK DANOWSKI: Libraries 2.0 and user-generated content: what can the users do for us?*  
(please see 113 SI - National Libraries with ICABS and Information Technology)
- *CATHERINE LUPOVICI: Gallica 2.0: a second life for the BnF digital library*  
(please see 146 IT) (paper is there, not yet available via IFLA-NET)
- *HEILA PEINAAR and INA SMITH: Development of a Library 2.0 service model for an African library*  
(please see 146 IT)

**Actions:** *The authors of the three contributions are requested to polish their presentations according to research papers standards. Reinhard will propose them for the IFLA Journal.*

## **8. Technology watch**

ITS maintains a Technology Watch section on the IFLA website. It was noted that while this is a good concept, the Technology Watch site is outdated and difficult to maintain. That is why Mr. Danowski suggested that a blog should be a better way of communication. He proposed to open two categories of blogs:

- on technology developments, and
- on conferences.

**Actions:** *Mr. Danowski will introduce the two mentioned blogs for some time and in case that they result unsuccessful, he will close them.*

## **9. Corresponding members**

According to IFLA regulations corresponding members could take part in the SC activities. The Chair proposed Patrick Danowski as corresponding member of the section. This was accepted by all ITS present members.

## **10. IFLA.net**

IFLA Headquarters are looking for volunteers to recreate the approach to requirements for IFLA.net room.

**Actions:** *Four volunteers from ITS will cooperate:*

- *Patrick Danowski*
- *Zhinxiong Zhang*
- *Catherine Lupovici*
- *Frank Cervone.*

## **11. Midterm meetings**

The president of the SC inquired whether midterm committees would be possible in order to enforce the cooperation of the ITS members. However, due to distant distribution of all members it was impossible to get into a consensus. Videoconferencing was discussed as an alternative, but presented difficulties due to problems of cost and accessibility to video conferencing services for a large number of participants.

***Actions:*** *For the time being there will be no midterm meetings.*

12. The Chair closes the meeting.

Alenka Kavčič-Čolić  
Secretary, IT Section