Editorial
by: Elisabeth Lundgren

Dear members of the section,
I hope you enjoy your summer and your holidays. Here in Sweden on my second week of vacation the sun at last seems to have reached Sweden and the west coast. The temperature in the sea is now quite enjoyable, about 18 degrees, and I had a swim before starting with this second issue of our newsletter.

This issue of the newsletter is naturally rather thin and is mainly concentrated on the IFLA General Conference in JERUSALEM, August 13-18. It contains selected parts of the Schedule and Programme for the meetings and, of course, the Standing Committee Agenda for our section.

You can also get some information about The Midwinter meeting in Berlin on March 23-24. This meeting was very good and constructive. Berlin is a lovely and very interesting city, historical and modern at the same time; everywhere new buildings are growing like mushrooms. If you have the possibility to go there - take it. Why not combine it with the IFLA conference in Berlin 2003.

In Berlin we discussed ideas and some drafts for the revised edition of the Guidelines for Children’s services. At the IFLA conference in Jerusalem we will have a Workshop about this theme. We will also arrange a seminar.

In April I visited Zimbabwe for the second time, and this time the political situation was really unstable. However I met with some librarians who all expressed their hope for the future, and in the next issue of SCL News I will report on my meeting with Pauline Mtuda, who works optimistically with Children’s Reading Tent. The tent is a very good example of an offensive approach towards a reading culture. In targeting children’s reading habits she is convinced about reaching the goal of a reading society in all Zimbabwe.

Please notice the last date for the contributions to the next issue of SCL News - October 15!!!
Committee member Rita Schmitt successfully arranged the midwinter meeting. We thank her very much. Library visits were wonderful as well as the over all organisation. She reports from the meeting:

Two Days in Berlin
Midwinter meeting of the IFLA Standing Committee of Libraries for Children and Young Adults
Rita Schmitt, Secretary

On March 23/24, 2000 seven of the twelve regular SC-members of the IFLA-Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults held their midwinter meeting in Berlin. Current and future projects and conference planning were on the agenda. The meeting took place during the Leipzig Book Fair which made a visit of the bookfair possible for some SC members.

The hospitality in both buildings of the Berlin Central and State Library, whose director general, Dr. Claudia Lux, is member of the IFLA Executive Board as well, made the combination of hard and intensive work and a library visit convenient for the SC members from Croatia, Denmark, England, Germany, Norway, Russia and Sweden. A lunch reception of the Berlin branch of the German Library Association gave its chair, Dr. Dieter Biewald, the opportunity to welcome the guests.

IFLA members from abroad are actually seen as “embassadors” in their countries for the IFLA conference in Berlin, which will take place in August 2003. Dr. Biewald expressed his expectation that the guests meet in a productive working atmosphere, feel well in Berlin and find some time for sightseeing!

Major topic of the meeting was the work on the revised version of the “Guidelines for children’s services“. First drafts have been discussed and the most challenging task is to give the guidelines universal validity. SC members now again will work on their drafts and the Danish member Lars Aagaard will compile a first complete draft which will be available for broad discussion during the workshop in Jerusalem (Sunday, Aug 13; 12:00 - 15:50 h; meeting number 85). There is no need for registration for the half-day workshop.

Further topics were the preparations for all meetings of the Jerusalem conference and the exchange of informations about current developments in the different countries.

During their meeting, the SC members visited the “Hallescher Komet”, the teenage library within the Central and State Library of Berlin.

Gertrud Jahnke, the head of the children’s and teenage services of the library, welcomed the group very warmly and gave information about this unique multimedia library especially designed for teenagers in Berlin. It exists since 1996 and half of the materials which are offered are non-book media. Free internet access for teenagers is available since the first days of this library.

Berlin nowadays seems to be a very attractive place for both private and business purposes. Therefore SC members brought not only lots of papers for the meeting with them but were also very curious to know more about recent developments in the new German capital. Sightseeing and visits to museums in the evenings and at the weekend after the meeting gave at least some impressions of the enormous changes in the city.

It was the first midwinter meeting of the Standing Committee in its actual structure. So it has been a great success that more than half of the group could attend this useful meeting and work on the progress of the current projects. We hope that we will be able to continue with midwinter meetings in the next years.
A one-year project "Children’s writers meet young readers" has become an important event in the life of Russian children’s libraries and has helped to make libraries more attractive to children, and to give librarians new impulses in their work with young readers. The project was supported by the Soros Foundation, an American charity organization, which invested a fabulous sum of money into developing of libraries and informational systems in Russia, and has recently launched unprecedented program, named The Pushkin Library to support both publishers and libraries and to establish and strengthen professional links between them, as well as to rise the social status of the libraries.

The main goal of the project was to establish a cooperative network between all dealing with children’s books in the country: writers, publishers, librarians, teachers, readers. The lack of information on children’s books, as well as the unsatisfactory government support and as the result - lack of new acquisitions prevents the development of children’s libraries. But one can’t just wait for better days.

In 1999-2000 a dozen of children’s writers has visited about 50 libraries in various parts of Russia - from the Far East to the Western boarders, from the White Sea to the Black Sea. Every month new destinations were chosen - Siberia, Volga-region, the Urals. The participants of the project tried to get to the most remote places - small villages and towns.

The project gave writers an opportunity to meet their readers, to present book talks, to get inspiration from the young audience, to communicate with librarians and teachers. Thousands of children had a chance to experience the joy of reading and communication. Writers met children not only in libraries, but also in big cinemas and concert halls. A special puppet theatre was made and had a great success with the audience.

Nowadays in Russia it is very difficult for a children’s writer, even, or especially, most talented, to get published, as publishers prefer to stick to the classics or popular stuff. So for the writers it was an opportunity to feel needed and loved. Every trip included a seminar on contemporary children’s literature for librarians and teachers. They appeared to be very useful as a unique source of the important information. We also discussed professional problems and perspectives of future cooperation. And children just enjoy themselves, feeling at ease and at home in the library...

Olga N. Mäeots
66th IFLA General Conference
August 13-18, 2000
A selection of interesting parts of the Program for IFLA Section of Library Services for Children and Young Adults

Saturday, 12 August
08:30-11:20
18 Libraries for Children and Young Adults SC I
11:30-14:20
39 School Libraries and Resource Centres SC I

Sunday, 13 August
08:00-11:50
68 UAP Core Programme joint with Continuing Professional Education: Workshop
69 Management of Library Associations: Workshop
08:30-10:20
71 Internet Discussion Group
09:00-10:20
76 Introduction to IFLA for Newcomers
10:30-12:20
78 Friends and Advocates of Libraries Discussion Group
Theme: "Ways and Means of Securing Increased Support for Libraries"
80 Social Responsibilities Discussion Group
Theme: "The Growing Gap between the Information Rich and the Information Poor both between and within Countries"
11:45-12:45
83 UNESCO Open Forum
SI
12:00-15:50
85 Libraries for Children and Young Adults: Workshop
Theme: "Guidelines for Children’s Services "Presentation of the first drafts of the revised edition of the Guidelines by members of the Section
16:00-18:00
89 Council
SI
Evening
90 Exhibition Opening and Welcome Reception

Monday, 14 August
09:00-10:20
95 Introduction to IFLA for Newcomers
SI
08:30-11:00
97 Open Forum: Division of Libraries Serving the General Public
SI
Theme: "Public Library Guidelines for a New Century"
11:30-13:20
101 Digital Libraries (Start-up meeting to consider Discussion Group)
14:30-15:20
106 Information Coordinators Meeting
16:00-18:00
107 Opening session followed by Plenary Session

Tuesday, 15 August
08:30-11:00
110 Management and Marketing joint with Information Technology and Social Sciences Libraries
**Audiovisual and Multimedia joint with User Education**

**Mobile Libraries**  
Theme: "Mobile Libraries and Literacy Development: Current and Future Perspectives for a New Generation"

**Management and Marketing joint with Information Technology and Social Sciences Libraries**  
"Changing Patterns of Library Work for Today and Tomorrow"

**Public Libraries**  
Theme: "The Public Library Facing the 21st Century"

**School Libraries and Resource Centres**  
Theme: "The School Library and the Global Network"

**Continuing Professional Education**  
Theme: "Continuing Professional Education: A Contemporary Update"

**Wednesday, 16 August**

**Reading**  
Theme: "Literacy and Libraries: An Introduction"

**Library Services to Multicultural Populations**  
Theme: "New Research in the Multicultural Area"

**Libraries for Children and Young Adults**  
Children’s libraries and literature in Israel  
Speaker to be announced

Reading and library usage habits of students whose mother tongue is Turkish in Vienna, Austria  
Speaker to be announced

**Libraries for the Blind joint with Public Libraries**  
Theme: "Building Smart Communities: Knowledge as the Key to Growth and Development"

**Education and Training**

**Evening**

**Free for receptions at embassies**

**Thursday, 17 August**

**User Education: Workshop Off-site**  
Theme: "Training the Information User for the Global Library of the Future"

**Library Services to Multicultural Populations: Workshop Part I**

**Mobile Libraries: Workshop**  
Theme: "Telling Mobile Libraries’ Story: Collecting the Past to Build a Future"

**Reading: Workshop**  
Theme: "Library-Based Programmes to Promote Literacy"

**School Libraries and Resource Centres: Workshop**  
Theme: "Guidelines for School Libraries"

**Libraries Serving Multicultural Populations: Workshop Off-site**

**Friday, 18 August**

**Libraries for Children and Young Adults SC II**

**School Libraries and Resource Centres SC II**  
10:30-12:15

**Education and Training SC II**  
11:00-12:20

**Report from OCLC on Young Professionals programme**  
15:00-17:00

**Council and Closing Session**

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...and much, much more...
Dates:
Standing Committee I - Saturday, 12 August, 8:30 – 11:20 h
Standing Committee II - Friday, 18 August, 8:00 – 10:15 h

Agenda
1. Welcomes
2. Apologies
3. Conference schedule and programme of meetings
4. Minutes of the 1999 Bangkok SC meetings
5. Matters arising
6. Chair’s report
7. Financial report
8. Information Officer’s report
9. Revision of the IFLA-Guidelines for Children’s Services
10. Budget 2000 - proposals for Project Money
12. Reports
   • Books for All
   • Post-conference seminar: Informal programmes to support reading and libraries in developing communities – publication of the papers (Geneviève Patte)
   • CLA/IRALYS (report from Adèle Fasick)
13. Publicity materials for the section
   • Information leaflet
   • Homepage
   • YA-Guidelines - translations
14. Conference planning
   • SC Midwinter meeting spring 2001
   • Main conference Boston 2001
15. Reports from SC members (please bring a one-page-paper with the highlights of the professional year in your institution / in your country)
16. 2000 conference evaluation
17. Any other business

Contributions to next issue before 15 October 2000!!!