Document Delivery and Resource Sharing
Section 15
Annual report: 2008

The Section on Document Delivery and Resource Sharing is the forum in IFLA for libraries and associations concerned with making information in all formats available throughout the world through a variety of resource sharing and document supply techniques.

The Section's primary objective is to extend and improve document delivery and interlending both nationally and internationally through the use of new technologies and increased cooperation among libraries and document suppliers.

The Section monitors developments and provides information to its membership through a section website, twice-yearly newsletter, programs at IFLA conferences, support of document delivery workshops, and cooperative projects with international organizations.

Membership: 168 institutions and associations globally

Officers:

Chair: Kim Baker, National Library of South Africa, South Africa
Secretary/Editor: Rose Goodier, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
Treasurer: Robert Seal, Loyola University, Chicago, United States of America
Information Coordinator: Joan Stein, Carnegie Mellon University Libraries, United States of America

Meetings:

1) The Committee met for their mid-term meeting at INIST in Nancy, France, and visited the Bibliothèque Nationale 14 - 15 February 2008. The Minutes of the meeting were published on the IFLA website with the following URL:
   http://www.ifla.org/VII/s15/pubs/docdelMinutesFeb08.pdf
Discussions included pre-planning for Quebec, as well as selection of papers for the Open session in Quebec, updating on the Boston satellite, and further pre-planning for the ILFA ILDS in 2009. Bob Seal was elected as Treasurer for the Standing Committee. The Model Handbook was discussed in more depth, and a draft outline was commented on, with further work needed.

Photo credit: Kim Baker   Members of the Standing Committee at INIST, Nancy, France, 14 February 2008.


2) Standing Committee meetings were held at the Quebec conference in August 2008, in Quebec, on the 9th and 15th August respectively. The Minutes of these meetings have been posted to the IFLA website at the following URL:  
The Chair had to patch through to the meetings, using Skype, which IFLA very kindly sponsored, as the Chair could not obtain a Visa from the Canadian High Commission in Pretoria, despite applying well in advance, and doing her utmost to comply with an impossible requirement. Details are documented in the Minutes. The use of Skype enabled the Chair and the Standing Committee to overcome the obstacle placed in the way by the Canadian authorities, and business matters were successfully discussed.

Conferences:

Two conferences took place at which the Section was active this year – the IFLA conference in Quebec, in August 2008, and the Boston Satellite meeting, Rethinking Access to Information, which was held 5 – 7 August 2008.

1) Quebec IFLA Conference: Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Open Session

The programme was as follows:

Theme: Global resource sharing across borders: crossing geographical, language and conceptual boundaries in interlibrary loan and document delivery services

- New directions in digital information delivery in the Web environment at the NRC Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information
  MICHAEL IRELAND (CISTI, Ottawa, Canada)
- Libraries without borders: document delivery, Singapore style
  CHAN PING WAH (Research and Innovation Services, Singapore) and NGIAN LEK CHOH (National Library, Singapore, Singapore)
- Document delivery services enhance access to information resources in remote Uganda
  MARI ANN G. N. MUSOKE (Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda)
- eBooks on Demand (EOD). A European Digitisation Service
  GÜNTER MÜHLBERGER and SILVIA GSTREIN (University of Innsbruck Library, Innsbruck, Austria)

The papers were well received by an audience of 200 delegates, which was very pleasing considering that there was no simultaneous interpretation for this session. Dr Musoke’s paper was selected for publication in the Section’s October 2008 newsletter, while Gunter Mühlberger and Silvia Gstrein’s excellent study on the EOD project was recommended for publication in the IFLA journal. To the Committee’s great delight, the paper was selected for publication in the IFLA Journal.

2) IFLA Satellite: Rethinking access to information: evolving perspectives on information content and delivery, held in Boston, MA, 5 – 7 August 2008.

The Document Delivery and Resource Sharing section partnered with the Acquisitions and Collection Development Section, and the Reference and Information Services section, to jointly host the Satellite at the Boston Public Library. Poul Erlandsen, who is now involved with the Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative, assisted greatly with the coordination of the event with members of the RRSI, who also arranged sponsorship for the Satellite. (Sponsorship was from the Boston Public Library itself, in conjunction with OCLC, Emerald and Relais). 131 delegates attended the conference, with about 75% of
attendees coming from North America. There were delegates from further afield as well, including Australia, India, Nepal and the Ivory Coast. The proceedings of the Satellite are webbed at URL:  http://www.bcr.org/rethinkingaccess/
Projects:

1) **Update the Principles and Guidelines for International Interlending**

   Significant progress was made with this project, and it was almost complete by the end of 2008. It will be finalised by the mid-term meeting in February 2009, after which the Principles and Guidelines will be translated, and paper copies will be printed for distribution at the Open Session at IFLA in Milan and at the ILDS in Hannover, 2009. Printing costs will be covered from the Section’s Administrative funds for 2009.

2) **Write a Model Handbook for Inter-library Loan.**

   Owing to the changing of editors with the departure of Debra Mckern, some delays were experienced. However, by the end of 2008, a credible outline had been produced, and Margarita Moreno kindly arranged for the National Library of Australia to host a wiki, so that authors and editors could work together collaboratively on a shared platform. Sjoerd Koopman expressed interest in having the Model Handbook as an IFLA Publication for 2010, and future work will therefore be in collaboration with the publishers of the IFLA Publications programme. This also means that costs will be covered by the IFLA Publications section, and separate project funding from IFLA is thus not needed. Due to the delays, it has been decided that the launching of the Model Handbook will be set for 2010, rather, as a more realistic time target.

Reports and Publications:

The Section published two newsletters in 2008:


Kim Baker  
Chair: IFLA Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Section  
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