



IFLA SECTION LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

SC Meetings Durban

1. Saturday 18 August 2007: 11.30 – 14.20 ICC Room 22DEF
2. Friday 24 August 2007: 8.30 – 10.50 ICC Room 22DEF

www.ifla.org/VII/s20/index.htm

Minutes (Meetings I & II)

1. Welcome

Andrew Cranfield opened the meetings by welcoming all Standing Committee members and observers. Agenda items to be discussed at the two meetings were agreed. All members and observers briefly introduced themselves at the meeting. Members joining the Standing Committee for the first time were welcomed.

2. Attendance and Apologies

SC Members Attendance List Meetings I&II

Alessandro Bertoni (I)	bertoni@unive.it
Sharon Bostick (I)	bosticks@umkc.edu
Andrew Cranfield (I & II)	cranfield@debibliotheken.nl
Anders Dahlgren (1 & II)	anders@libraryplan.com
Olaf Eigenbrodt (I & II)	olaf.eigenbrodt.2@ub.hu-berlin.de
Karen Latimer (I & II)	k.latimer@qub.ac.uk
Ingvild Monsen (I & II)	ingvild.monsen@hib.no
Hellen Niegaard (I)	hn@dbf.dk
Rieke Overbeeke (I & II)	davidbroekman@hotmail.com
Janine Schmidt (I & II)	janine.schmidt@mcgill.ca
Joaquin Selgas (I & II))	jselgas@iccm.es
Dorothea Sommer (1 & II)	dorothea.sommer@bibliothek.uni-halle.de
Cécile Swiatek (1 & II))	cecile.swiatek@upmc.fr
Kjartan Vevle (I & II))	kiartan.vevle@bibsentr.no
Jianzhong Wu (I)	jzwu@libnet.sh.cn
Joan F de Beer (II)	joan.debeer@nlsa.ac.za
Perry Moree (II)	perry.moree@kb.nl
Santi Romero (II)	romerogs@diba.cat

Observers

Ann Curry (1)	ann.curry@ubc.ca
Guy Daines (1 & II)	guy.daines@cilip.org.uk
Boris Federov (1)	federov@gpntb.ru
Elena Lindeman (i)	ellinda@gpntb.ru
Ayub Khan (II)	ayubkhan@warwickshire.gov.uk

Apologies for the first meeting were received from Laure Delrue, Santi Romero and Joan de Beer and for the second from Laure Delrue, Sharon Bostick, Alessandro Bertoni and Jianzhong Wu.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of SC Meetings held on 19th and 25th August 2006 in Seoul.

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and adopted.

4. Election of Officers.

Andrew Cranfield (Chairman) and Karen Latimer (Secretary) had both served for two years and were willing and eligible to serve a second term. Hellen Niegaard proposed they be re-elected and Joaquin Selgas seconded.

5. Library Building Guidelines

The Chairman congratulated the editors of the Guidelines, Hellen Niegaard and Karen Latimer, on meeting the publication deadline. The book was launched at an 8.30-10.30 session on Wednesday 22nd August 2007 and Standing Committee members were encouraged to attend. Hellen thanked all the contributors for their work on the book and also all the Standing Committee members past and present who had shared their expertise and provided information. It had been a difficult and ambitious project which had involved some changes along the way but had reached a successful conclusion. All present were encouraged to promote the book and Hellen said she would ensure it was advertised in *Danmarks Biblioteker*

Hellen stressed that the guidelines would need updating in the future and there was some discussion about printed and electronic revisions. Anders Dahlgren said he was happy to contribute to any future revisions even if he was no longer an SC member. Alessandro Bertoni said it was hoped to produce an Italian translation for the IFLA conference in Milan and other SC members expressed a willingness to provide translations in their languages. The Chairman pointed out that they would need to discuss this with Saur as there would be copyright implications.

On the topic of publications, Dr Wu drew members' attention to his new publication *Classical Library Buildings of the World* to which some SC members had contributed.

6. Newsletter

It was noted that two issues of the Newsletter had been produced since the last meeting with Ingvild Monsen chasing up and providing material, Andrew Cranfield editing and arranging the graphical layout and Karen Latimer taking responsibility for printing and distribution. The Newsletter had not been produced for some time and this three-pronged approach had ensured that the publication was now back on track. Ingvild Monsen agreed to take on responsibility for the Newsletter with Andrew Cranfield and Karen Latimer continuing to provide support. There was much discussion about the content and length of the Newsletter and whether it should remain as a printed

publication or be produced only in an electronic format. It is currently available on IFLANET and printed versions can be made available from IFLA HQ on request if necessary. Guy Daines suggested additional information and images could be available on the e-version. In the meantime it was decided to retain a printed version of about 8 pages in length.

It was agreed that the November issue each year should include a report on the annual conference and satellite conferences as appropriate – Durban and The Hague for 2007 - and also feature a good library building. Anders Dahlgren suggested setting up a template for this and volunteered to do this using the library at Fayetteville, Arkansas, as the model for the next issue. Janine Schmidt agreed to write up the Durban open session for the next issue of the Newsletter and Kjartan will ask Liv Saeteren to review the Guidelines.

The April/May issue each year would be a special issue on a topic of particular interest and it was agreed that the 2008 issue would be on learning centres including collaborative and community learning and the impact this trend was having on the design of library buildings. It was proposed that the 2009 special issue be on furniture and equipment and could include children's libraries and self issue, RFID and robotic sorting equipment.

Discussion on numbers to be printed then followed and it was agreed to send additional copies to SC members for distribution to interested colleagues. The Chairman noted the issue of providing information to non-members and it was agreed that distribution should be limited. Joaquin Selgas asked if previous members of the section such as Maria Jose Moura could receive the Newsletter. Karen said that the Newsletter was distributed to SC members and to all members of the Section but that she would send out additional copies as requested.

Cécile Swiatek's offer to translate the Newsletter into French was gratefully accepted. Olaf volunteered to translate material from the section into German and Joaquin and Santi hoped to get Spanish translations also. The format would be the same for these translations but they would be electronic only and available on the website.

7. Website

There was detailed discussion about how the LBE section of the IFLA website could be developed. The Chairman reported that there were problems with the IFLA website and that a working group drawing on the expertise within the wider membership was being set up to bring forward proposals for change. It was likely that work on the website would be devolved to Sections in future. Currently the minutes and the Newsletter are available for the LB&E Section.

A working group consisting of Janine Schmidt, Olaf Eigenbrodt and Karen Latimer was set up and proposals were brought forward to the second meeting. It was agreed to develop links to a small number of good library building websites, to provide brief CVs of members of the Standing Committee with jpegs (a template will be provided), to set up additional plans and images of the buildings featured in the Newsletter and also include details of relevant publications starting off with the contents of the Guidelines. There was some

discussion about the possibility of including information on library consultants, architects specialising in library design and library suppliers. The problem of seeming to endorse particular individuals and/or products and the need to include disclaimers were considered. It was felt that this needed to be looked at in more detail.

Janine Schmidt agreed to take on the role of Information Coordinator and said she would circulate proposals for website content for comment by November.

8. Strategic Plan for IFLA

The report and recommendations of the IFLA Professional Structure Review Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting and the Chairman summarised the key points. Many of the concerns expressed by SC members at the Seoul conference had been addressed. Fortunately the Library Buildings & Equipment Section had a healthy number of both Standing Committee members and Section members. The report was discussed at length with concern being expressed about the transparency of the organisation and the need to minimize bureaucracy. The Secretary reminded members that the Professional Committee Hearing Session was to be held on Sunday at 11.45am and everyone was encouraged to attend.

The Chairman reported that Peter Lor was retiring as Secretary-General of IFLA in autumn 2008 and the search for his successor would begin shortly.

9. Strategic Plan for the Library Buildings & Equipment Section

The current plan was reviewed and the main aims and objectives confirmed. Janine circulated her revised flyers which had been produced to promote the Section as stated in the 2005-2007 plan. The objective to produce guidelines had been achieved but it was felt that there was a need to monitor developments with a view to producing a revised edition at some future date. Hellen proposed that a very brief key facts extract based on the Guidelines and drawing on the forthcoming DIN standards might be produced which summarised the key things anyone embarking on the design of a new library building might need to know. Anders, Olaf, Santi and Karen agreed to initiate something for further discussion at the Quebec meeting

The idea of an international resource for library building design incorporating a database of new projects based on the UK Designing Libraries website had been discussed at the meeting in Seoul and there was further discussion about how that could be carried forward. It was felt the Section should have some role in facilitating or coordinating such a project but further investigation was necessary. Janine Schmidt expressed reservations and felt it would be hard to achieve with countries having different requirements. It was agreed that the Secretary would circulate details of the fields used in the Designing Libraries database and Section members could comment on these and suggest any additional fields that would be useful in their national or regional context.

It was agreed that the current aims 3 and 4 should be combined in the updated plan.

10. Annual Report and Finances

The annual report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman summarised the content and asked for any comments to be forwarded to him by the end of September.

11. Open Programme Durban

Section members felt that the Library Buildings & Equipment session had been very successful. Over 250 people had attended the session and the papers had been stimulating and wide-ranging. It was felt that it might be a good idea to vary the standard lecture format at a future session and involve the participants in debate and discussion. Janine Schmidt will write a report on the session for the next issue of the Newsletter and Anders will forward photographs of the Guadalajara library to her.

12. IFLA Journal

It was agreed that Anders Dahlgren's paper on Guadalajara Public Library should be put forward for inclusion in the IFLA Journal. He will send a revised version of the paper to the Secretary by early October which will be put up on the web. Olaf offered to translate it into German.

13. Future Conferences and Events

The Chairman distributed the flyers for the conference on 'Building for the Future' to be held in The Hague from 3-5 October in place of the previously proposed Pretoria pre-conference which had had to be cancelled. Members were asked to circulate flyers widely. The conference is being run in partnership with the Koninklijke Bibliotheek with a wide range of speakers from around the world. It is hoped to attract about 80-90 delegates. The committee agreed it was an excellent substitute for the Pretoria conference and kept the schedule of satellite conference being held every other year on target. It is hoped to publish the conference papers.

There was much discussion about the Quebec conference. The Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section had approached the Chairman about the possibility of running a joint session and this was welcomed. Ann Curry suggested as a topic the concept of the library as third place and the impact of that on the design of library buildings. Other possible topics included a re-evaluation of what users need focusing on market research and environmental scans.

Following on from the comments on the session at the Durban conference, the need for debate and participation was emphasised. The need to get papers in advance and to ensure speakers adhered to the IFLA guidelines on overheads was also stressed.

The possibility of having a day of library visits in Montreal prior to the Quebec IFLA was discussed. Janine agreed to take this forward.

A working group was set up to organise the next satellite conference which will take place in Venice after IFLA in Milan in 2009. Members of the group are Alessandro Bertoni, Sharon Bostick, Anders Dahlgren, Cécile Swiatek and Karen Latimer. The Chairman stressed that there were tight deadlines as

proposals had to be submitted to IFLA by February 2008 and flyers would need to be available for distribution at the Quebec conference. It was agreed that a definite costed proposal would need to be with the Chairman and Secretary by the end of December 2007. Alessandro was confident that there would be a lot of financial and practical support from colleagues in Venice and it was likely that other Sections would want to collaborate. The conference should be a very practical affair taking the form of workshops and involving both architects and library staff. Following discussion between Section meetings, it was proposed that groups of librarians and architects might visit a number of different library buildings and then make presentations on these to all participants.

As a number of Section members hope to be attending the conference in The Hague in October, it was agreed that a meeting be held there to discuss the conferences in Quebec and Venice further.

14. Any other business

Anders congratulated the Chairman and Secretary on well run meetings and thanked the Secretary for producing interim minutes after the first meeting.

Karen Latimer
Secretary
12 September 2007