

**International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
SECTION ON LIBRARY THEORY AND RESEARCH**

**DRAFT Minutes 2nd meeting IFLA Conference in Glasgow,
Friday 22nd August 2002**

Present

Chair/Treasurer	Kerry Smith
Secretary	Marian Koren
Information Coordinator	Wilda Newman
SC members	Bob Usherwood, Pascal Sanz, Lars Höglund, Beverly Lynch, Ilkka Makinen, Maxine Rochester, Ragnar Aurundsson

-
1. **Call to order** The Chair, Kerry Smith opened the meeting at 08.10 am.
 2. **Apologies:** Steffen Ruekl.
 3. **Adoption of Agenda:** continued.
 4. **Evaluation of LTR and conference activities:** workshop and sessions
 - Workshop: *Political perceptions of the public library*
 - Large attendance; room not suitable for a workshop with smaller work groups, but problem was solved on the spot. The workshop format is limited to 50 persons, but with this large number of conference participants new formats of sessions should be considered.
 - Language: Maybe we should try a bi-lingual session, as a other means to get more people involved.
 - Content: Good input from participants, would have been useful before the project was started. Although it was decided to focus on the highest level of government for library matters, a solution needs to found for the various requests to take into account an instrument to map the perceptions of local policymakers.
 - Methodology; Ragnar questioned the liberty in methodology and the use of literature research. Ilkka suggested to include interviews of politicians, but to check the reality.

A number of participants have volunteered or shown interest in assisting with the questionnaire. A Russian colleague commented: guidelines and national documents, and international projects are needed to

show politicians what is going on elsewhere. Bob will send out the questionnaire to those who have made contact with him.

As people were interested in continuing discussion on how these political perceptions have an impact on the profession (compare White House Conference on Libraries etc.) it was suggested to set up a new discussion list. Wilda Newman would contact Sophie Felfoldi of IFLA HQ for this.

- Workshop with Statistics and Northumbria

LTR-SC-members noted the absence of the papers on the IFLAnet. The general rule is to disseminate information before the conference starts. In cases where IFLA Sections are cooperating with external groups, this might cause a problem, if such a group wishes to publish the lectures in its own publications. As a general rule, IFLA has the first right of publication/refusal (but this only relates to open sessions so IFLA will not get the papers for publication!). This first right is also stated in the forms sent to the lecturers/authors. Kerry Smith will contact Wanda Dole (Statistics Section) on this. The problem should also be notified to IFLA HQ. LTR expressed its general concern about the non-availability of papers, especially out of workshops, where papers are handed out but never generally available. Only 1 in 5 papers are on the CD Rom! A request for clear policy will be made. Vital information is not on the IFLANET. The Chair will take this matter to the CB-meeting.

- Comments on the Conference

LTR members commented on the well-organised aspects of the conference and its large participation and the good work done by the volunteers.

7. Future conferences

- Berlin 1-9 August 2003
- Satellite meeting on measurement: LTR has agreed to co-sponsor, together with Statistics Section the Northumbria Lite Conference which will take place in Durham City in the UK. But problems related to publications of papers (see above) need to be solved; the involvement of IFLA must be visible.
- As the Statistics Section is moving into the area of performance and evaluation, it comes closer to the research component of LTR. Would a place within Division VII be more fruitful for the future?

- The proposed satellite meeting with FAIFE on the Ethics of Librarianship has, after some discussion, now been agreed to take place within the conference as a whole day workshop. Wallace Koehler is LTR's contact person for the organisation.
- The subject of 'ethics' can also be applied to the researcher him/herself: Ethics of research itself could in this light be considered as an extra project. LTR will keep this in mind for the future.
- LTR will also present its research project, and relate its title to the theme of Berlin 2003: A call for papers will be sent out under the general title of *Getting research into policy and practice*. Cooperation should be sought with the Public Libraries section. Ragnar also suggested we look at the interesting note during a Glasgow lecture as a title: The gap between the governed and government.

- Buenos Aires 2004

Dates: 20-27 August. The Theme is: *Libraries: tools for education and development*

If report on the research project is too early in Berlin, it could be scheduled for Buenos Aires.

Another possibility is to start on the Ethics of research, as a project.

- Oslo 2005

The conference will be held 14-19 August 2005. The theme has not yet been decided.

8. Section's communication

Wilda Newman reports from the information coordinators meeting:

- lectures useful for publication in IFLA Journal are very welcome!
- shorter articles in IFLA journal will be the future approach
- lectures should be documented, to be put up on IFLANET; no PPT-file only.
- a mirror site for North America is under construction
- archiving of digital IFLA material is another HQ activity.
- look at the discussion lists policy.
- E-mail addresses need to be corrected. Section members and e-mail addresses will be put in a database on the IFLANet. Until now a section cannot produce our labels.
- IFLANet and IFLA journal to be connected closer.
- Database of IFLA publications, what has LTR to offer according to strategic plan?

Discussion on the costs of the Newsletter resulted in a Resolution of LTR through CB: on the policy of paper or electronic newsletter, as adopted in the first LTR-meeting.

Discussion on the availability of papers during the IFLA-conference resulted in another LTR resolution through CB: the request a clear policy on the availability of papers, also from workshops (which tend to have the character of open sessions).

9. Any other business

- Thanks to Wilda Newman for putting up information on the IFLANet.
- LTR will put extra effort in marketing of the section: mailing to research-based library schools. Please send address information on library schools to Kerry Smith. She will also use the specific library schools website etc.
- For the Newsletter at the end of the year: Bob Usherwood will send copy.
- Many thanks to all the members of the Section.

10. The Chair **closed** the meeting at 9.10 a.m.