



**Draft Minutes:
IFLA/Standing Committee on Library Theory and Research
Saturday 2 August 2003, 11.30 –14.20 hrs
Meeting room GS Vip 1, ICC Berlin 28**

Present

Chair/Treasurer Kerry Smith
Secretary Marian Koren
Information Coordinator Wilda Newman
SC members
Bob Usherwood, Lars Höglund,
Beverly Lynch, Ilkka Mäkinen, Ragnar
Audunson, Wallace Koehler
New SC members
Mohamed Hassoon, Cynthia Hill, Dong
Youl Jeong
Section members
Filiberto Martinez, Berwaoui Radia
Observers
Almadeva Prietr, Vera Blair Koehler, Yolanda Panayata

1. Welcome to all and to new members: The Chair, Kerry Smith, opened the meeting at 11.30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance

Apologies: none received

Adoption of the agenda: the agenda as previously circulated by Secretary Marian Koren was adopted.

2. Review and approval of the minutes of the Standing Committee Meetings in Glasgow 2002 The minutes were accepted.

Matters arising from these minutes:

The Chair noted with thanks to all involved that the following actions have been undertaken: update of strategic plan, two issues of the newsletter, annual report, translation of the LTR brochure into five languages.

3. Berlin conference

a) PC and CB VII Business arising from meetings *Friday, 1 August 2003:*

(i) *President Elect's program: the theme is Lifelong Literacy:* A special session will be held on Wednesday: the president-elect has invited sections and divisions to reflect on how to relate their specialism to the presidential theme, and include actions in their strategic plans.

(ii) Green Light comments: Some 23 responses have been received, an update is on IFLANET. <http://www.ifla.org> The new GB will follow this up. Some comments and recommendations, also from the LTR Section and Division VII have already been taken into account. (iii) Review of IFLA Sections 2007: the review was announced in a letter to all sections dated 9 May 2003. It forms part

of monitoring the federation's structures, content of programmes and outcome. FAIFE has volunteered to be the first core activity to be reviewed and this will be by self-assessment and external check. Sections can provide suggestions for review criteria. b) The conference program: The Section has had excellent support from Sophie Felföldi (HQ) who has placed all Section-information and papers for meetings on IFLANET. LTR is involved in the following programs: LTR Open Session: *Is your library project evidence based?* Tuesday, 5 August 2003, 13.45-15.45 hrs. Some 25 proposals for papers were received. The Chair and Secretary refereed the submissions and made their selection based on the relevance of the paper to the topic, variety in presentations, the research basis of the presentation and geographical spread of speakers. Five papers will be presented in the two-hour session with all papers on IFLANET. R. Audunson is willing to chair the meeting. (i) LTR Workshop with Management of Library Associations: *Libraries & politics – how to bring libraries & national associations into the political sphere?* Wednesday, 6 August 2003, 08.30–12.45 hrs; the interim results of the LTR-project on *Political perceptions of the public library* will be presented. B. Usherwood distributed a draft interim project report. Three researchers will give short presentations (Croatia, Sri Lanka and Uganda). (ii) LTR offsite workshop with FAIFE: *The librarian: the key to open and closed collections. Issues on ethics of librarianship.* Thursday, 7 August 2003, 08.30-7.30 hrs. W. Koehler will be one of the chairs. Research on ethics is included. (iii) Section time slot at the IFLA booth, Monday-Wednesday, 4-6 August: K. Smith and W. Newman will be present and take leaflets in different languages. (iv) Participation in President elect's session Wednesday, 4 August, 10.45-12.45 Life long literacy @ your library: R. Audunson, M. Koren and possibly K. Smith will attend from LTR-section.

4. Election of Section's Officers for 2003-2005

K Smith stepped down from the Chair and B. Usherwood agreed to chair this part of the meeting.

- a) Chair: K. Smith is willing to stand for a second term. Accepted, unopposed.
- b) Secretary: M. Koren is willing to stand for a second term. Accepted, unopposed.

Other regulations:

- c) Treasurer: K. Smith will continue this task as chair/treasurer.
- d) Information Officer: W. Newman is willing to continue this work; accepted with gratitude by the SC-members.
- e) Committee members. The retiring LTR- SC-members: Silvia Nestorescu - Romania, Daniel Rios – Argentina, Pascal Sanz – France were thanked for their support and contribution to the section. The new SC-members: Dong Youl Jeong – Korea, Mohamed Hassoun – France and Cynthia Hill - USA were welcomed and invited to participate with ideas, proposals and good contacts, including translations.

5. Strategic plan 2003-2005

A number of issues need to be taken into account:

- (i) President Elect's program: including "Lifelong literacy "
 - (ii) Review of IFLA Sections 2007
 - (iii) New guidelines for program planning, including cooperation with other sections
 - (iv) Social Responsibilities Discussion Group recommendation for LTR: research the education and training needs of Southern countries in conjunction with relevant agencies in order to facilitate the development of appropriate information curricula.
 - (v) Upcoming framework for strategic focus, based on IFLA's core values, professional priorities, brainstorming sessions, Green Light comments.
- K. Smith proposed a working party to brainstorm on various matters and report on this at the second SC-meeting. R. Audunson, I. Makkinen, W. Koehler, C Hill, Dong Yeong Jeong and K. Smith to join this working party at a time which suits all and during the conference. Report to be presented at next SC meeting 8 August 2003.

6. Communication

- (i) Newsletter: Two issues were published, in December and July. PC adopted the regulation that the Newsletter can be sent electronically to the section members, but requires 8 paper copies to be sent to HQ, and a paper copy to those members who request this. New reports and announcements are welcome for the forthcoming newsletter.
- (ii) Leaflet: with the help of John Harvey, the leaflet has been translated into the five IFLA-languages. A new version will be made when the new strategic plan 2003-2005 is accepted.
- (iii) Discussion-list: about 50 members have subscribed to the discussion list of the section.

(iv) Website: All main documents of the section are on the IFLANET; some older annual reports are missing and K Smith is endeavouring to rectify this.

7. Financial Report

K Smith as treasurer tabled a preliminary report on the Section's finances. Some money was saved by sending only one newsletter in paper copy from Australia. The SC resolved to reimburse 240.35 AUD to K. Smith for the preparation and mail out of this December 2002 issue of the Newsletter. Some of the money remaining will be used for the forthcoming issue of the newsletter which will be prepared and sent from the USA and for editing the Section's publications. The finances for the LTR-research project on *Political Perceptions* will end in December 2003. B. Usherwood will make the final report and awaits some contributions from various countries.

8. Projects

- (i) *The political perceptions of the public library*: B. Usherwood had earlier tabled an interim report on the project. He reported that a lot of good and useful research has been received. He expressed the wish to make an extra effort to include some other countries and if this was done, then the final report would be finalised at the end of this year. The manuscript will then be edited (including lectures from the LTR/MLA workshop) and presented as an IFLA publication – a green book. K Smith agreed to assist B Usherwood with this work.
- (ii) New proposals: R. Audunson suggested a project to investigate the impact of IFLA by setting standards etc. on professional development, with a special focus on literacy. He will bring an elaborated proposal to the second SC meeting.

9. Other business

B. Lynch reported that she would be the Section's representative and attend a meeting of the IFLA Discussion Group on Quality Issues during the conference.
K. Smith tabled a copy of her annual report. This had been prepared in line with the Section's strategic objectives.

10. Close of Meeting at 14.20 hrs.

Draft minutes: IFLA/Standing Committee on Library Theory and Research Meeting Friday 8 August 2003 08.00 – 10.00 hrs

Technical University, Franklinstrasse 28-29, 10587 Berlin

1. Opening.

The Chair, Kerry Smith welcomed all to the second SC-meeting. Present were: K Smith, M Koren, W Newman, B Usherwood, I. Makkinen, C Hill and one observer from Jamaica. Apologies were received from: B Lynch, R. Audunson, W. Koehler.

2. Resolution, proposal SC members valued the initiative of the German organisers to introduce groups of LIS students to the IFLA congress during one afternoon, by giving them a flavour of the international work. The groups of students could sign up for this introduction for free. They were addressed by president-elect Kay Raseroka.

SC-members also welcomed the initiative to create a Young Librarians Forum, which would start as a Discussion Group.

The SC expressed its concern about the relative high fee for individual membership, and the relatively high fee for students to be members of IFLA. 50 euro is still too high for many parts of the world, and also higher than most national association fees for students. SC members decided to put forward a suggestion to draw PC and GB's attention to the individual membership fees, and to revise them in the light of attracting new and young members to the international professional association. This will be put forward at the CB meeting on behalf of LTR.

3. Evaluation of the conference

Most programmes in which LTR participated were well organised and attended. The Session on *Evidence based library projects* had a full house. Two excellent papers from Norway and New Zealand provoked much discussion.

The joint session LTR/MLA had a good response and lively debate. More submissions to the LTR research project on political perceptions are expected.

The joint session LTR/FAIFE had some 40-50 attendees though some people did not stay for the full day. This was an off site workshop. The papers were thoughtful and very good.

Overall, the strategy to connect to other IFLA units and spread the LTR/research aspects has proven to be fruitful. The section had also shared sponsorship with the Statistics section for a satellite pre-conference meeting – *Northumbria Lite* – that was held at Durham City in the UK. None of the SC members had managed to attend; however reports of the meeting were good. Since some aspects of the organisation of this meeting proved troublesome, SC decided it would not willingly participate in this sort of meeting in the near future.

The LTR participation in the brainstorming of the President Elect's programme was divided in two tables for Division VII (An overview of possible input in 'Lifelong literacy' is available. It may lead to a Divisional programme slot in Buenos Aires.

Papers from the conference can be suggested for publication in the *IFLA Journal* and suggestions and paper(s) should be sent to Stephen Parker.

4. Strategic plan 2003-2005

The working party had come up with a draft, which was distributed. The final plan will follow the IFLA format. K. Smith will include the comments made.

It was agreed not to undertake too many actions, but rather to consolidate established contacts and work, especially on the current project and its publication.

Other items to be included: (1) final report on the Political Perceptions Research: to prepare for IFLA-publication: presenting August 2004. (2) new project: proposal distributed by R. Audunson. This would be a 3-year large project (1500 euro per year) to evaluate IFLA-standard setting, especially in literacy. This will be proposed to CB and PC for approval.

5. Buenos Aires World Library Congress 2005

Theme: *Libraries: Tools for Education and Development*. 21-28 August 2004

-New guidelines for program planning mean a 2-hour time slot for LTR.

-Satellite sessions – no application made Programs: LTR: Possibly in cooperation with the Divisional program on Literacy.

-Plus a 2-hour LTR session

. On the evaluation of research papers – R Audunson.

. On the use of appropriate *toolbox* for research project - W Koehler.

-K Smith to work these proposals up with those who had volunteered.

6. Future Conferences

a) Oslo 2005: Theme: Libraries, a journey of discovery

LTR Program: *The research journey*

Issues: Interim report on the hopefully approved research project (Research of Literacy)

Testing the toolbox for literacy research programme/projects? (Follow up of Buenos Aires) Addressing information centres and research institutes

b) Seoul 2006; no suggestions yet

c) Durban 2007; no suggestions yet.

7. Other Business

The recommendations from the Social responsibilities Discussion Group had been referred to CBVII since a number of sections were mentioned in the recommendations from this group.

I. Mäkinen drew attention to a new book: *Introduction to information studies* in Swedish, which he has co-edited.

W. Koehler had also co-authored a book entitled: *Fundamentals of information studies*. SC members were encouraged to bring new research materials to the attention of other section members through the discussion list or the newsletter. One idea was to create an overview of research 'champions' and map the specialties and knowledge of various LIS schools and research institutes. W Newman will follow this up.

8. Close of Meeting by the Chair 9.45