



# LTR Newsletter

DECEMBER 2005

IFLA Standing Committee on Library Theory and Research  
(International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions)

## *In this Newsletter:*

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(Pictures by Marydee Ojala)



World Library and  
Information  
Congress: 71st IFLA  
General Conference  
and Council  
*"Libraries - A  
voyage of  
discovery"*

August 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>  
2005, Oslo, Norway

## Report from IFLA Congress in Oslo

Almost 3000 participants to the 71st IFLA Conference gathered in Oslo, among them 1000 first timers; representing 133 countries, including those where 75 grantees came from. They all enjoyed the varied programme, including more than 200 meetings, the exhibition, an enormous Opening session, and fine cultural activities on literature and cultural heritage in museums. In the sun shine we walked from one meeting place to another, just having time for a chat when crossing the street. In this way, the congress was integrated in Oslo daily life.

Oslo is also the city of the Nobel Peace prize, and peace diplomacy. Keynote speaker Francis Sejersted underlined the need to remind ourselves again and again why freedom of expression is so important for truth, democracy and the free formation of opinion. Changing legislation in many countries requires alertness of many librarians.

With this call in mind we began the Congress, where IFLA/FAIFE launched the World Report 2005: *Libraries, National Security, Freedom of Information Laws and Social Responsibilities*.



## Minutes of LTR Business Meetings

*Meeting 1: Saturday 13th August 2005*

Present: Standing Committee Members  
Kerry Smith, Chair  
Marian Koren, Secretary  
Wilda Newman, Information Coordinator,  
Natalia Gendina, Ragnar Audunson  
Ann Curry, University of British Columbia,  
Jingli Chu, Library of Chinese Academy of  
Sciences, Marydee Ojala, Online Magazine, USA

Observers were Ksibi Ahmed, Institut Supérieur de Documentation Tunisie; Tord Hoivik, Oslo University College; Andrea Kaufman, Institute of Library Science, Humboldt University Berlin  
Apologies from Wallace Koehler, Cindy Hill  
Beverly Lynch.

**1. Welcome** to all, Introduction of new members and officers of the Section  
Kerry Smith, Chair/Treasurer, opened the meeting at 11.30 hrs and welcomed all present, especially new Standing Committee members and observers

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and requested personal introductions from attendees.

New Members to the Standing Committee 2005-2009 are: Ann Curry, Bidy Fisher, Chu Jingli, Kingo Mchombu and Marydee Ojala.

Marian Koren and Ragnar Audunson were reelected as Standing Committee members.

- Adoption of the Agenda: The agenda previously circulated through the LTR list serve and standing committee, and published in the July 2005 newsletter was adopted.

## 2. Election of SC Officers for 2005-2007

The Chair introduced the election of officers.

Under the IFLA guidelines for standing committee membership the situation is as follows:

\* Kerry Smith to stand down as Chair since she has completed her 4 years: 2001-2003; 2003-2005, (was Secretary for 2 years: 1999-2001).

\* Marian Koren to stand down as Secretary since she has completed her 4 years 2001-2003; 2003-2005.

\* Wilda Newman, after 2 terms (8 years) of involvement with LTR retires from the section.

The chair investigated the eligibility of members and their willingness to stand.

- Chair: Kerry Smith, herself could not stand as she had come to the end of all possible terms. On request, Marian Koren explained she could not stand for the position of Chair, as she thought it appropriate to continue her work in the Professional Committee, and should stand for the position of Chair of the PC. The SC members then proposed Ragnar Audunson, who said he was willing to stand and take up the position of Chair of the LTR section. Accepted, unopposed.

- Secretary: Marydee Ojala was willing to take up this position. Accepted, unopposed.

- Other regulations:

Treasurer: Marydee Ojala will do this task as secretary/treasurer.

Information Officer: This task would be considered at the second SC-meeting.

- Membership. Corresponding Members. For unknown reasons, Wally Koehler's renomination for SC-membership was not received at IFLA HQ, so it was proposed that he would be accepted as a corresponding member. Accepted.

A certificate of appreciation for Standing Committee work in the past years would be sent to Bob Usherwood after completion of his LTR project..

## 3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meetings and business arising not elsewhere covered in Agenda

- The minutes of the Buenos Aires SC meetings were approved.

Matters arising from these minutes: None, other than those discussed relative to conference program planning discussed under separate headings.

- Buenos Aires Congress program: good papers, attendance and visit. Thanks to the organizers and the local liaison the LTR programme had been fine. The site visit and programme were a good practice to continue in coming WLIC's.

- LTR Membership mail out to LIS institutions. This had been done by Kerry after some delays.

Response so far had been poor. Europe still needed to be addressed. As the new chair, Ragnar, is also the chair of EUCLID, he will take over and do the mailing for Europe.

- Addressing library researchers and consultants: seems to be quite difficult, but LTR should use its members to go on. The Division leaflet could be helpful as well.

## 4. IFLA business at Oslo Conference

- PC and CBVII business arising from meetings. Marian Koren addressed several items relating to the conference, apart from those already mentioned in the agenda.

IFLA would work on a calendar for activities to help sections to improve the workflow between PC and sections. Sections were requested to increase their efforts of making IFLA an open association, by using calls for papers, to recruit new speakers and members.

Recruitment of members would be supported by IFLA, by a membership toolkit, which would be presented at the Officers training.

Sections should try to have their draft programmes ready by January and inform speakers. In case a speaker of an adopted paper, indicated (in January/February) he would be unable to present the paper due to lack of funds, the PC would early in the year still have a possibility to look into a small travel fund.

Sections were invited to review and make strategic plans for 2006-2007, and requested to look for cooperation with Division VIII. They were also requested, as always, to have a representative attending the SC of Division VIII. Kerry Smith promised to attend, which was noted.

-Review of IFLA Sections

The draft prepared by Kerry, the outgoing chair, would be discussed with Marian, outgoing

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secretary, and the incoming chair, Ragnar, especially the part of self-assessment. Kerry would then finalize it and send it to Ragnar. He will send the final draft to the SC members for comments, and after possible revision send it to IFLA HQ before 1 November 2005.

- Other matters

It was noted that a number of SC-members were also editors or related to (e) library journals; they were happy to consider publishing IFLA papers which were not published in IFLA Journal.

Marian was requested to put forward to the IFLA Journal that the time that an author of an IFLA paper would have to wait until he could publish elsewhere should be reduced to 3 months. (As is the custom with many journals) Furthermore, IFLA Journal should turn into a peer reviewed Journal. Marian would take this forward.

## 5. Oslo Conference session

Some practical arrangements were made. Overview of the sessions elsewhere in this Newsletter.

## 6. Communication

- LTR Annual Report September 2004 – August 2005: Kerry Smith said the report was well underway. (see elsewhere in this Newsletter)  
- Newsletter: The latest one had the full programme and agenda for Oslo.

- Website. Electronic resource for LIS research? IFLA website would be renewed. All LTR documents were up on the net. Promoting knowledge exchange among LTR members had begun with a new section on the IFLA LTR website, but few submissions from standing committee members were received. (See:

[www.ifla.org/VII/s24/proj/ltrsc-professional-work04.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/VII/s24/proj/ltrsc-professional-work04.pdf)

- Membership leaflet: a task for the Secretary to produce an updated one, once the Strategic Plan would be finalized.

## 7. Financial Report

Copies of the financial state of the art were distributed by the Chair/Treasurer. Some \$ AU 1100 were still in the accounts. It was decided to use the existing funds for some translations of the Research Toolkit. The report was adopted.

## 8. Partnership activities

- Quality issues in libraries discussion group: Beverly Lynch reported by e-mail that no discussion had taken place and the group had returned to library statistics.

- Home for LIS Journals? A short discussion on the relationship to the LISJ section resulted in that Marian and Kerry would attend their SC-meeting, and if necessary offer them shelter within LTR. The Chair closed the meeting with thanks to all for their contribution.

**NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**

**LTR- Discussion list: LTR-L**

All members of the Section are invited to subscribe and exchange information via LTR-L: Library Theory and Research Mailing List which supports the LTR Section's concerns and activities.

The list encourages the broadest participation of academics and practitioners in our meetings. It is open only to the subscribers that are given access based on their interest in IFLA/LTR and its scope on library, information, and knowledge initiatives in order to promote the exchange of information and knowledge in the field of library theory and research. Webinterface:

<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwsympa.fcgi/info/ltr-l>

Messages to: [ltr-l@infoserv.inist.fr](mailto:ltr-l@infoserv.inist.fr)

**NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**



*Our hard working outgoing chair Kerry Smith*

SC Meeting 2: Friday 19th August 2005

Present: Kerry Smith, Ragnar Audunson, Marian Koren, Biddy Fisher  
Observers: Ksibi Ahmed, Alistair Black  
Apologies: Marydee Ojala

Opening

Kerry Smith, outgoing chair, presided the meeting.

### 1 Designation of Information Officer

Coming back to appointment of tasks: on request, Marian said she was willing to take up the task of information officer if no one else was willing to do

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so. Some communicative tasks could later on still be shared by others. This was accepted.

## 2 LTR Strategic Plan 2006-2007

Apart from the section review, some update was needed, deleting the Buenos Aires and Oslo programmes, and input of Seoul and Durban conferences.

Also an update of the LTR projects was necessary. Kerry would hand over the draft to Ragnar to be finalized by him.

## 3 Projects

*The political perceptions of the public library*

The project on Political perceptions (Bob Usherwood) was not ready. The SC decided to work for a quality report and discuss with IFLA HQ the possibility of having a 1 year project funding to realize this with a quality final report. Kerry Smith and Ragnar Audunson would find out the possibilities for project money. Ragnar would contact Bob Usherwood for the next steps.

*The role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms: lifelong literacy*

The project led by Ragnar needed more researchers and countries. Materials would be put on the IFLAnet, for easy access and reference. (Marian) Ragnar would contact a number of persons he had met during the LTR sessions and the SC meeting to recruit researchers from a larger variety of countries. He would have the project presented in Seoul.

*The Research Toolkit (Wally Koehler).*

The Research Toolkit was an activity by LTR which needed to be followed up: Ragnar would contact Wally on i) accessible presentation on IFLA Net; ii) translation into other IFLA languages by using the LTR funds.

*New proposals*

No proposals for new projects were put forward.

## 4 Future conference planning

**Seoul, Korea 2006** – Libraries: dynamic engines for the knowledge and information society

LTR theme - Cultural Diversity in library research?

Satellite sessions – no LTR request made

LTR involvement in Conference program

Libraries: dynamic engines for the knowledge and information society

A working group of Natalia, Jongli Chu and Ragnar would work on the programme, based on earlier discussions on linguistically and culturally (unbiased) research (and education) and report back at the second SC meeting.

The LTR programme would also include a site visit and programme to the Korea LIS research institute.

LTR would propose to the CB of the Division, to continue a Divisional programme.

Ragnar presented and distributed some changes for the new Strategic plan, regarding the Seoul Conference.

- A LTR (or possibly Divisional) programme on the influence of language and culture on the way in which we perceive, do research on and educate about libraries and their role in the information society.

- On site visit to Korean research Institute with paper presentations



Our hard working incoming chair Ragnar Audunson

Presentation of the conclusions/final report from the project on effects of IFLA standards

- A call for researchers and possible presentations in Seoul would be put on IFLA net (Ragnar, via Marian);

- Possibility of a panel debate on the outcomes, in cooperation /including people from the Management and Marketing Section would be included.

Outcome of the project would be presented to the Professional Committee, GB (and its Committees on Conference Planning and Membership Development, and the Secretary General/HQ.

## Durban 2007

**Durban, South Africa 2007** – Libraries for the future: progress, development and partnerships

The theme of linguistic and cultural diversity would be continued in the LTR (and or divisional programme) in Durban.

- LTR would look into the possibility of a satellite meeting, in connection with its new SC member: Kingo, Namibia; and with a contact person from Division VIII. Biddy Fisher drew attention to the role of national library collections for scholarly research in African culture. Alistair Black mentioned Tony Olden's, UK, study on history of libraries in Africa.



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Furthermore, Marian mentioned Kay Raseroka's address in London to African studies researchers. Ragnar suggested to focus more on LIS studies. And he also mentioned the relation of the Danish Library school with South Africa on curriculum development. Ragnar would start off by contacting Kingo, (and the Division VIII contact person).  
- LTR would like to continue with a visit and programme to a LIS research institute on site.  
- A divisional programme should also take place, and could include a follow up on cultural diversity issues.

## 5 Other business

- paper to be proposed for IFLA Journal.  
The LTR section decided to propose the paper on the situation in Japan, to be published in IFLA Journal (Marian to write to Steven Parker and authors of all other papers.)  
- According to the IFLA Journal editor, (SAGE) Ann Curry's publication (from Buenos Aires was among the three articles with the most hits. Marian will verify, and include some words in the Newsletter.  
- LTR members are encouraged to refer to each others journals where appropriate: LIBRIS, LIR etc.  
- Hopefully, some photographs from Marydee Ojala can be included in the Newsletter.

6 Close of Meeting by the Chair at 14.20 hrs.

## IFLA congress sessions

### 9-11<sup>th</sup> August Satellite session in Bergen, with Management and Marketing and Public Libraries

Theme: Management, Marketing, Evaluation and Promotion of Library Services  
Based on statistics, analyses and evaluation in your own library  
The conference was well attended, had a dynamic programme and high quality papers, and good speakers. LTR contribution was delivered by Ragnar, Natalia and Tord, and Ahmed, with great appreciation.

### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August

#### Division of Education and Research

##### *Recruitment and Careers*

[Embedding employability skills in the Library and Information Management Curriculum in the UK](#)

DEREK STEPHENS (Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK)

[Critical aspects of the professional socialization of freshmen library school students](#)

HELGE HOIVIK (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway)

[Recruitment to MA LIS studies at the Institute of Information and Book Studies, University of Warsaw - the survey of candidates' motivation to different specialties](#)

MALGORZATA KISLOWKSA and MARIA PRZASTEK - SAMOKOWA (University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland)

[Results of the longitudinal study of employment outcomes for Australian ILS graduates](#)

KERRY SMITH and PAUL GENONI (Department of Media and Information, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, WA Australia)

[A tale of two markets: employer expectations of information professionals in Australia and the USA](#)

LINDA MARIONA, MARY ANNE KENNAN, PATRICIA WILLARDA and CONCEPCION S.

WILSONA (School of Information Systems, Technology and Management, The University of New South Wales, Sydney NSW, Australia)

[Are students really entering careers in librarianship? An analysis of career patterns after graduation from LIS schools](#)

TERRY WEECH and ALISON SCOTT (Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL. USA)

### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August

**Library Theory and Research with Education and Training, at the Oslo University College, Oslo**

*The Nordic tradition in library and information science research and education and international perspectives*

Niels Ole Pors chaired the meeting, with great support from Ragnar and the Oslo University College for arrangements. The room was almost too small for all interested colleagues, but with a bit of improvisation, this was a well attended and rich session.

The speakers and topics were:

[Continuing professional development: trends and perspectives in a Nordic context](#)

GITTE LARSEN (RSLIS, Denmark)

[The cultural dimension in library education](#)

JOFRID KARNER SMIDT (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway)

[Library and information science education: is there a Nordic perspective](#)

RAGNAR AUDUSSON (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway)

[On librarians' occupational identities: ICT and the shaping of information seeking expertise](#)

JENNY HEDMAN (Swedish School of Library and Information Science, Sweden)

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## [The Nordic-Baltic cooperation in doctoral education: the case of NORSLIS](#)

AIRA LEPIK (Graduate School of Social Sciences, Tallinn University, Tallin, Estonia)

## [LIPER \(Library and Information Professions and Education Renewal\) project in Japan](#)

SHUICHI UEDA (Keio University), AKIRA NEMOTO (Tokyo University), MAKIKO MIWA (National Institute of Multimedia Education), MITSUHIRO ODA (Aoyama Gakuin University), HARUKI NAGATA (University of Tsukuba) and TERUYO HORIKAWA (Shimane Women's College)

## [Great expectations: developing a profile of the 21st century library and information student: a Queensland University of Technology case](#)

HELEN PARTRIDGE and GILLIAN HALLAM (School of Information Systems, Faculty of Information Technology, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane Australia)

## [Library Science - quo vadis?](#)

PETRA HAUKE, JANA GRÜNEWALD, BEN KADEN, ANDREA KAUFMANN and MAXI KINDLING (Institute of Library Science Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany)

## [Action research in action: involving students and professionals](#)

ANN CURRY (Canada)

Research methods teaching in information science: UK experience

ANNE MORRIS (Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK)

## [The basis for evidence-based practice: evaluating the research evidence](#)

Dr. LAUREL A. CLYDE (Faculty of Social Science, The University of Iceland, Reykjavík, Iceland)

### *In Memoriam:*

*We were fortunate to have had Ann Clyde in this session and heard her eloquent speech and intelligent contribution. We deeply regret that she has passed away, soon after the IFLA conference. A big loss for the LIS community!*

## Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August

**LTR-session on its project: *An investigation of the role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies relating to lifelong literacy*** (

Progress report on the Australian and New Zealand perspectives

KERRY SMITH (Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia)

Progress report on the perspective from the Netherlands

MARIAN KOREN (Netherlands Public Library Association, The Hague, Netherlands)

Progress report from Norway

RAGNAR AUDUNSON (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway)

Progress report from Italy

ANNA MARIA TAMMARO (University of Parma, Italy)

Unfortunately, Tarek Ouerfelli (Institut Supérieur de Documentation, Manouba, Tunisia) was unable to come and present his paper; therefore AnnaMaria Tammaro gave a report from Italy.



Marian Koren, outgoing secretary continues as information coordinator

## ANNUAL REPORT September 2004 – August 2005

### Mission

The IFLA Section on Library Theory & Research exists to:

- Provide a research-based framework to IFLA's professional priorities through a program promoting theoretical and empirical library and information science research and analysis;
- Provide and encourage international networking opportunities for library professionals engaged in library and information science research.

**(IFLA Professional priorities:** Supporting the role of libraries in society; Developing library professionals; Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices)

The Section's aims for 2004-2005 are clearly set out in its Strategic Plan for that year. LTR set itself a number of goals and delivered actions on them as follows:

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## **Goal 1 Encourage exchange between practice-based and theoretical research in LIS.**

**Actions:** This goal was to be achieved by 1.1 encouraging empirically based papers at IFLA and IFLA sponsored conferences. The Oslo 2005 conference had as its theme: *Libraries: a voyage of discovery*). LTR participated in a number of joint sessions at the Oslo conference:

- 9-11 August 2005, The Management and Marketing, offsite satellite session: *Management, marketing, evaluation and promotion of library services, based on statistics, analyses and evaluation in your own library*. Papers were delivered by LTR SC member Natalia Gendina: *Coordination of higher educational institutions and professional library associations – the key to training quality rise of librarians of XXI century*.
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005: LTR participated in the CBVII offsite session: *Recruitment and careers in LIS. Invited research-based papers*. One paper was delivered by LTR: Kerry Smith: [Results of the longitudinal study of employment outcomes for Australian ILS graduates](#). Kerry Smith and Paul Genoni (Department of Media and Information, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, WA Australia)
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2005: LTR section with Education & Training (SET): *The Nordic Tradition in Library and Information Science Research and Education and International Perspectives* with the following papers presented by SC members: [Library and information science education: is there a Nordic perspective](#) by Ragnar Audusson (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway); [Action research in action: involving students and professionals](#) by Ann Curry (Canada);
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2005: Progress reports from Italy, Australia, the Netherlands and Norway were delivered on the LTR research project: *Role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy (part 1)*

1.2 Promoting appropriate research activities and investigations relevant to IFLA'S professional priorities:  
LTR has two research projects underway:  
The final report for the *Political perceptions of the public library* under the co-ordination of Prof Bob Usherwood in the UK is now overdue and efforts are being made to re-establish this worthwhile project. Reports on progress regarding this project have been reported in earlier LTR Annual Reports.

*Role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy (part 1)* is being led by Ragnar Audunson of Norway with the preliminary results from four countries being reported at the Oslo conference.

The Information coordinator has commenced a knowledge exchange amongst LTR members on the IFLA LTR web page: [Standing Committee Members 2003-2004 and their Professional Work outside IFLA](#) with many members of the LTR SC listing their research interests.

## **Goal 2 Assisting in the development of expertise and knowledge in useful research methods**

### **Actions**

2.1 Communicating research expertise and knowledge to the library community.  
The consideration of a project on the preparation of a research toolbox for LIS researchers in languages other than English is under deliberation by Dr Wally Koehler, a member of the Section, and members of the SC.

Oslo conference (theme: *Libraries: a voyage of discovery*) – papers were given as reported earlier. Disseminating results of research projects and activities:  
Reports of results so far for the ongoing project *Role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy (part 1)* were delivered at the Oslo conference.

Evaluate conference papers for possible inclusion in IFLA and other journals. The Standing Committee recommended the paper: [LIPER \(Library and Information Professions and Education Renewal\) project in Japan](#) by SHUICHI UEDA (Keio University), AKIRA NEMOTO (Tokyo University), MAKIKO MIWA (National Institute of Multimedia Education), MITSUHIRO ODA (Aoyama Gakuin University), HARUKI NAGATA (University of Tsukuba) and TERUYO HORIKAWA (Shimane Women's College) be included in the IFLA journal.

## **Goal 3 Facilitating transnational networks of common research interests**

### **Actions**

3.1 Encouraging participation in LTR Research projects:  
Both projects: *Political perspectives of the public library* and *An investigation into the role of IFLA in*

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*promoting change and diffusing professional norm in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy emphasize the contributions of studies from many countries.*

### 3.2 Sharing LTR communications:

- Two copies of the LTR Newsletter, December 2004 and July 2005 were produced and delivered to all section members.
- LTR operates a discussion List and the Section Chair uses a closed SC list for administrative communication.
- LTR maintains a comprehensive Website on IFLANET;
- Invitations are extended to all Section members to attend the LTR Standing Committee meetings. This meets with little success. However, the attendance of three observers at the first SC meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2005 and 2 observers at the second SC meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August was encouraging.

### 3.3 Promoting membership to LTR:

- The Section commenced communication with library schools by encouraging them to join IFLA and participate in LTR activities. An international mailout seeking new memberships was commenced at the end of 2003 and continued throughout 2004-2005. A letter of invitation, current LTR newsletter and section brochure were mailed to many library schools throughout the world.
- Target professional groups (e.g. library schools)
- There was a broad international representation on our Standing Committee and amongst our members in 2004/5. Members of the Section were encouraged to join the LTR Standing Committee in the 2005 elections. This resulted in 5 new members: Dr Ann Curry – Canada, Ms Bidy Fisher – UK, Jingli Chu – China, Kingo Mchombu – Namibia, and Marydee Ojala – USA. Retiring members were Juan Carlos Molina – Spain, Bob Usherwood – UK, Wilda Newman – USA.

§ The continued transnational promotion of membership to the Section was mainly through the Section's website, <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s24/sltr.htm#7> and the LTR membership brochure which is available on the IFLA website as a .pdf file, translated into the IFLA languages of English, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

§ Beverly Lynch was the Section's representative at meetings of the Discussion Group: *Quality issues in LIS institutions.*

The Officers of the Standing Committee for 2004/5 were:

Chair and Treasurer: Dr. Kerry Smith,  
Secretary: Dr. Marian Koren  
Information Coordinator: Wilda Bowers Newman

*Kerry Smith*  
*Outgoing Chair, LTR Section*

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2006-2007

### Mission

**The IFLA Section on Library Theory & Research exists to:**

- provide a research-based framework to IFLA's professional priorities through a program promoting theoretical and empirical library and information science research and analysis;
  - provide and encourage international networking opportunities for library professionals engaged in library and information science research.
- (Professional priorities:** Supporting the role of libraries in society; Developing library professionals; Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices)

### Goals

**1. Encourage exchange between practice-based and theoretical research in LIS.**

#### Actions

1.1 Encourage empirically based papers at IFLA and IFLA sponsored conferences:

Seoul 2006 (theme: Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society)

- Seminar/workshop to continue development of LTR research project: Role of ILFA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy (part 2)
- LIS research in Korea: off-site session at a Korean institution for research in LIS presenting Korean LIS-research
- Contribute to a divisional session for the division on education and research: The effects of cultural and linguistic differences on how we interpret, research and educate in LIS.

#### Durban 2007

- A satellite conference on the effects of cultural and linguistic differences on LIS research with a special view to African cultural and linguistic heritage is planned but not yet finally decided upon.
- LIS research in South Africa: off site session at a South African institution for research in LIS presenting South African LIS-research.



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## 1.2 Promoting appropriate research activities and investigations relevant to IFLA's professional priorities:

- Encouraging library schools to include LIS research units/courses/subjects in their programs;
- LTR to communicate with IFLA and library schools.
- Information co-ordinator to commence knowledge exchange amongst LTR members;
- Evaluating research projects for their relevance to IFLA's professional priorities and LTR's goals.
- Consider a project on the preparation of a research toolbox for LIS researchers in languages other than English;

## 2. Assisting in the development of expertise and knowledge in useful research methods

### Actions

#### 2.1 Communicating research expertise and knowledge to the library community.

Oslo conference (theme: Libraries: a voyage of discovery)

- Encourage submission of library research paper to satellite session with Section of Management and Marketing: Management, marketing and promotion of library services, based on statistics, analyses and evaluation in your own library.
- Join SET in applying for session on research, education and training in Nordic countries.
- Seek LTR session to progress the LTR project: Role of ILFA in promoting change and diffusing professional norms in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy

#### 2.2 Disseminating results of research projects and activities:

- Political perceptions of the public library Project is prolonged to increase different international perspectives project report - expected publication within August 2006.
- Other publication(s) from the project, e.g. conference papers, journal articles.
- Evaluate conference papers for possible inclusion in IFLA and other journals.

## 3. Facilitating transnational networks of common research interests

### Actions

#### 3.1 Encouraging participation in LTR Research projects:

- Political perspectives of the public library
- An investigation into the role of IFLA in promoting change and diffusing professional norm in libraries with a weight on norms, standards and policies related to lifelong literacy.

#### 3.2 Sharing LTR communications:

- LTR Newsletter;
- LTR Discussion List;
- LTR Website on IFLANET;
- Encourage attendance at LTR Standing Committee meetings;

#### 3.3 Promoting membership to LTR:

- Target professional groups (e.g. library schools)
- Encourage broad international representation on LTR Standing Committee in 2005 elections.
- Update the Section leaflet

### **NEWS FROM DIVISION VII**

The sections within Division VII will continue their cooperation in the following activities:

#### Division session

A joint session will be organised at the next IFLA Congress in Seoul focussing on **"Hidden biases in library concepts- Cultural and linguistic differences in research and education"**. The LTR section will take the lead in the organisation. A call for papers has been published. (See below)

#### Division leaflet

For the second time, a Division Leaflet is available, giving short information on the subjects and activities of the sections within Division VII. It can be used for promotion, recruitment of membership and joint activities. Print copies are available through Marian Koren ([koren@debibliotheken.nl](mailto:koren@debibliotheken.nl)). The leaflet is downloadable: [www.ifla.org/IV/d7/Div7brochure2005-en.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/IV/d7/Div7brochure2005-en.pdf)

#### Officers for the Division VII

Chair:

Gwynneth Evans, [gwynneth.evans@sympatico.ca](mailto:gwynneth.evans@sympatico.ca)

Secretary: Jesús Lau [jlau@uv.mx](mailto:jlau@uv.mx)

### **CALLS FOR PAPERS**

#### **Call for interest:**

#### **LTR Project: The role of IFLA in diffusing professional norms and standards**

[www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/call-2006-ltr-e.htm](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/call-2006-ltr-e.htm)

The Standing Committee of the IFLA Library Theory and Research Section is undertaking a project aiming at eliciting the role of IFLA in promoting professional norms and standards in general and norms and standards related to information literacy in particular.

Results will be presented at an LTR session in Seoul, and for this session we would like to have national and regional reports on this topic from different parts of the world where we so far do not

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have partners, e.g. Latin America, Asia, East Africa, West Africa and Southern Africa and Russia. Reports can be based upon - qualitative interviews undertaken according to the attached interview guide (English and French version - the interview guide is about being translated in Russian and Spanish), quantitative surveys developed on the basis of the attached guide or other kinds of data deemed relevant, e.g. document analysis. If you want to contribute to this project please express your interest as soon as possible, indicating what kind of empirical investigation you would like to undertake (qualitative interviews, survey or document analysis) before the 1st of March 2006. We look forward to receiving your response.  
*Ragnar Andreas Audunson*  
project leader [Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no](mailto:Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no)

## Call for Papers

### Division VII: Education and Research

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/call-2006-Division7-e.htm>

Theme:

**"Hidden biases in library concepts- Cultural and linguistic differences in research and education"**

Librarianship is a scientific and professional field that depends heavily upon culture and language in its research and education. How do we interpret and understand central issues in LIS concepts within the context of different cultures and languages? What effects do cultural and linguistic differences have on the way we formulate research problems and educate and undertake research in LIS?

Central topics that library researchers and library educators deal with worldwide are, for example, information literacy, digital librarianship, the library as an arena for learning, the promotion of reading etc. But to what extent and in what way is our approach and understanding of such topics, as researchers and educators, dependent on our cultural and linguistic background? These questions will be addressed in a session of [Division VII, Education and Research](#).

We are looking for contributors who can highlight these or other central questions from different cultural and linguistic perspectives. Interested contributors are invited to submit an abstract by the **20th of February 2006**.

The abstract should consist of approximately 500 words, and be submitted to: Ragnar Audunson Chair, Library Theory and Research Section Organiser for Division VII 2006 Seoul Programme  
E-mail: [Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no](mailto:Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no)

## Other calls:

- Australian Conference Click06: Papers on leadership, innovation, knowledge  
<http://conferences.alia.org.au/alia2006/>

## **NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**

Ann Curry's paper, *Unreliable Research. Are librarians liable?*, presented at the LTR session in Buenos Aires, was among the three articles with most hits, according to IFLA Journal.

[www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/papers/187e-Curry.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/papers/187e-Curry.pdf)

## Attention for research journals

### Example

LIBRES is an electronic, peer-reviewed, international scholarly journal devoted to Library and Information Science Research, released in March and September of each year. The editors particularly encourage the use of web-based technology in the presentation of articles. Issues of LIBRES are available at:

<http://libres.curtin.edu.au/index.htm>

Please contact the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Kerry Smith, email [K.Smith@curtin.edu.au](mailto:K.Smith@curtin.edu.au) for further information.

Many other (SC) members of LTR Section are related to LIS journals. They can introduce themselves and their professional activities outside IFLA, so we can update this LTR Project.

See for all information the LTR section's website: <http://ifla.org/VII/s24/index.htm>

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