



Minutes of the Standing Committee

Health and Biosciences Section

August 8, 2003

Committee Members present: Bruce Madge (UK) chair; Rowena Cullen (NZ) secretary; Jo Anne Boorkman (USA), Paivi Pekkarinen (Fin); Christina Stotzenbach (Fra)

Guests: Elenice de Castro (Bra); Dick Miller (USA); Marja Janhiainen (Fin)

Bruce opened the meeting with introductions, since there were some new people present. Jo Anne continued as recorder for this meeting.

Rowena reported on the IFLA President's meeting. Kay Raseroka's theme for her presidential term (2003-2005) is "Life-long Literacy". Conference themes for the 2004 and 2005 are: "Libraries: Tools for Education and Development" (2004) and "Libraries: a Voyage of Discovery" (2005). Participants worked in groups using a grid to visualize the themes:

Access Literacies Lifelong

Advocacy

Partnerships

Continuing Prof Development

The revised Strategic Plan for 2003-2005, discussed at Saturday's meeting, was reviewed with these themes in mind. Additional action items were identified for Goal 4: Increase communication between librarians interested in the health and biosciences. Bruce will circulate the revised strategic plan to the committee for review and comment.

All committees should have actions to reflect the theme "Life-long Literacy". Division II, Special Libraries have special challenges:

- 1) Due to barriers that many libraries have because of proprietary information within their organizations that cannot be shared.
- 2) Advocacy for access to information is to be encouraged by working with governmental agencies and ministries. This becomes an aid issue in developing countries; communicate more with publishers – IFLA Publisher Relations Committee
- 3) Partnerships – financial pressures are causing companies to close their libraries
- 4) Professional development – disseminate information after the congress; open listservs for discussion; access to reports and appoint liaison officers.

Ideas for the theme and program for Buenos Aires were discussed:

Theme: Health Information Literacy

Contributed Papers Session: Channels for Empowering Patients with Health Information

Four papers are encouraged that evaluate success in empowering patients/consumers with health information. A Spanish-speaking speaker will be identified.

Possible ideas:

MedlinePlus in Spanish

Public Library dissemination of health information

Use of hairdressers to disseminate health information (a profile on use of hairdressers in Alabama on US National Public Radio was mentioned)

Ideas for content of Standing Committee Web Page:

- List of Standing Committee Members, with term of committee appointment and brief professional biography
 - Arne , 2001-2005
 - Birget , 2001-2005
 - Michele Absalon, 2003-2007
 - Ysabel Bertolucci, 2003-2007
 - Jo Anne Boorkman, 2003-2007
 - Rowena Cullen, 2003-2007 (Secretary/Information coordinator)
 - Michael Homan, 2003-2007
 - Bruce Madge, 2003-2007 (Chair/Treasurer)
 - Paivi Pekkarinen, 2003-2007

- List of cooperating organizations, with links to web pages:
 - BIREME
 - MLA
 - SLA, Biomedical and Life Sciences Section
 - EAHIL
 - WHO
 - PAHO

- Upcoming programs and meetings:
 - ICML 9/CRICS 7 <http://www.icml.org>
 - MLA Annual Meeting
 - SLA Annual Conference
 - EAHIL Meeting/Workshops
 - NCSC 2004 <http://www.lub.lu.se/nsc2004>

- Good Practice in Teaching health information
 - Empowering local populations for health information

Time line for Standing Committee Activities:

October 15 Submit Strategic Plan

Nov Planning for Buenos Aires well underway

Jan 2004 Program inquiry forms due

Feb 15 Posters submitted

March 15 Program finalized, equipment needs submitted, satellite meetings planned