



SECTION on READING *Newsletter*

No. 21

December 2005



A MESSAGE FROM SECTION CHAIR GWYNNETH EVANS

Looking out over a gray, wet, mild January day in Ottawa with the snow visibly shrinking from the neighbouring rooftops, it is difficult to evoke the bright days of August in Oslo. The IFLA Congress in Norway began for many of us on 12 August, when we held our one-day invitational meeting with the Section on School Libraries and Resource Centres on “Literacy for Life”. That occasion brought many professionals together to hear from a talented panel of speakers and then to discuss issues of importance to the role of libraries in lifelong literacy. The papers are available at: <http://www.iasl-slo.org/ifla2005-papers.html>.



It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Anne Clyde, Chair of the Section on School Libraries and Resource Centres, shortly after the IFLA Congress. Anne and I had worked together to develop the programme and the format of the joint session; we had intended to have the papers and the discussion group notes published on CD with a cover that explained the thinking behind our approach to Kay Raseroka’s theme of “Libraries for Lifelong Literacy”. While it has not been possible to proceed with this publication over the autumn, we are looking for ways to complete this project and to distribute something that demonstrates the significant and enduring contribution that Anne made to the library profession and to library users through teaching, research, association work, conference presentations, dialogue and mentoring. Anne was a citizen of the world; she used her holidays and sabbaticals to learn and share ideas, skills, the results of evidence-based research and experience. She was a passionate, articulate hub in our international network not only of school library professionals but of all library and information professionals. We miss her and we appreciate her unique contribution to our work.

Our Reading Section Standing Committee meetings and open session during the Congress went well. You may read of them in the minutes. The papers are also available on IFLANET at the Oslo conference site at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/Programme.htm>. What always gives me great satisfaction is that our members and participants are eager to exchange and share ideas, research and experience. When we are together, it is evident that our vision, aspirations and goals to develop and support literacy and reading are common values; that our social and cultural environments are rich and varied; and we wish to celebrate diversity and also contribute to a more equitable world of access and development through literacy, books and reading.

In Oslo, we had a pleasant lunch sponsored by Ivar Haug’s County Library. Ivar has worked for many years with the Reading Section and we appreciate his generosity. Also formally completing their terms (two consecutive terms of four years each) were Valeria Stelmakh and John Cole. John has fortunately continued to assist with the Newsletter through the Center for the Book. We wish our colleagues well and invite them to join us as often as possible.

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Chair's Message continued:

As we announced in Oslo, Kay Raseroka signed a formal agreement of partnership in Zagreb with the presidents of the International Reading Association (IRA) and the International Board on Books for Children (IBBY). I have been asked to chair a group of Section chairs who will analyze what this agreement means in practical, concrete terms. How shall we work together; how shall we share our interests in research, policy, publications? Are there things we can do together that can not be done separately? We shall inform you of the decisions, once the Professional Committee has had the opportunity to read the report and recommendations of the group.

Partnerships are a significant way of achieving common goals. A group of IRA and IFLA members are working together on a research project to identify best practice and effective campaigns to increase the culture of literacy within a society. We are using Global Learning Network. You will find it interesting to visit this site: <<http://www.glp.net/GLPNetPortal/portal/cn/DefaultContainerPage/Guest>>. If you wish to join the group, you will want to write James Wile at <jwile@reading.org> or me at <gwynneth.evans@sympatico.ca>.

The Reading Section will host a joint session on Family Reading at the Seoul WCIC with the Section on Libraries for Children and Young Adults. We shall also have an off-site session, entitled: Story Showcase and Exhibition of Korean Picture Books: The Historical Review at the National Library for Children and Young Adults.

Many of the Section members are very involved with children and young adults, while others work in adult literacy and reading promotion. We have evidence that family literacy programmes are a means of bridging the gap between the young and their parents and caregivers. From Latin America, I received a paper prepared for presentation at the Frankfurt Book Fair. The Columbian programme was inspired by the British Programme Bookstart (<<http://www.bookstart.co.uk/index.php4>>) but it has been adapted to local circumstances and different partners. Such examples are very useful for us to know; they lead each of us to think and act both globally and locally. By increasing the links, knowledge and understanding of those working with literacy and reading, we are contributing to the UNESCO Decade of Literacy and Reading For All.

Some of you may know that the IRA and its African associations have been hosting a biennial Pan-African conference on Reading for All. The last conference was hosted by Swaziland. Dr. J. Thuli Nhlengetfwa's summary of that gathering may be found at: <<http://www.reading.org/association/outreach/africa.html>>. The next Pan-African Conference will take place in Ghana in August 2007. IFLA will meet that year in Durban, South Africa.

I encourage you to send Briony Train (<b.train@sheffield.ac.uk>) information on some of your new programmes, Web sites, publications etc. We want to know what you are doing. And do not forget to go to: <http://soe.cl.uh.edu/writing_project/> to "Celebrate Reading Worldwide: An Interactive Calendar of Reading Promotions." This is a Reading Section project, led by Dr. Maureen White; there is a link from our Web site at: <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s33/index.htm>>.

Gwynneth Evans
Chair, Reading Section and Division VII, Education and Research



72nd IFLA General Conference, Seoul Korea
20-24 August 2006

FRAMEWORK FOR THE JOINT OPEN SESSION OF THE LIBRARIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS AND READING SECTIONS

The Reading Section and the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section of IFLA are hosting a joint session in Seoul, South Korea. The general theme for the session is Family Reading. This theme is linked to the overall theme of the 2006 World Library and Information Congress "Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society" and to President Byrne's theme of "Partnerships".



Aims:

- To reflect priorities, concerns and interests of the Reading and Children's Sections
- To reflect the needs and interests of Korean Libraries and Librarians
- To provide a focus on Family Reading

Programme Outline:

1. *An overview of family reading in Korea*
Young Sook Song - 3 minutes (20 + 10 Qs)
2. *An overview of public policies supporting family reading around the world*
Representative of IRA - 20 minutes (15 + 5 Qs)
3. *Family Reading Research from around the world*
Briony Train - 30 minutes (20 + 10 Qs)
4. *Best Practice in Family Reading around the world*
Four 15-minute sessions from four different continents (each 10 + 5 Qs). These to be slotted in between the other sessions, throughout the programme.
5. *Storytelling/Music/Dance Performance*
A short session to act as a break in the programme, and also as a 'taster' for 6 below. Possible refreshments during the break.
6. An off-site programme in the National Library for Children – storytelling, an exhibition and other activities.

**SECTION ON READING
MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
Oslo, Norway - 13 August 2005**

Present:

Standing Committee Members: John Cole, Mariétou Diongue Diop, Gwynneth Evans, Ivar Haug, Martine Jan, Cindy Lombardo, Briony Train, Maureen White, Alec Williams.

Associate Members: Elsa Ramirez, Rob Sarjant

Other Visitors: Yvonne Appiah, Barbara Combes, Maria Costa, Corrado DiTillio, Elke Dreisbach, Mercedes Falconi, Domi Kim, Lisa Krolak, Clemencia Montalvo.



1. Introduction of Members, and apologies for absence:

Gwynneth Evans welcomed all participants, who briefly introduced themselves. Apologies had been received from Leikny Haga Indergaard.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda, as printed in Newsletter No. 20 (August 2005), was approved. (*Proposed:* Cindy Lombardo, *Seconded:* Briony Train)

3. Approval of the Minutes (Buenos Aires Conference, August 2004):

The minutes were approved (*Proposed:* John Cole, *Seconded:* Maureen White)

4. Election of Officers:

Gwynneth Evans was re-elected Chair/Treasurer of the Section (*Proposed:* Cindy Lombardo, *Seconded:* Briony Train).

Alec Williams was re-elected Secretary of the Section (*Proposed:* John Cole, *Seconded:* Maureen White)

Briony Train was confirmed as Information Officer for the Section.

John Cole offered to continue as Newsletter Editor, but asked for an 'apprentice', who could begin to take over the work. *Note: No name given at the time – please contact John if you can help in this way.* Clemencia Montalvo and Elsa Ramirez both promised contributions to the Newsletter.

5. Review of the Strategic Plan:

Gwynneth Evans gave an update on all the points of the Strategic Plan. [Numbered references are to paragraphs in the 2004-2005 plan as presented on pp. 9-10 of Newsletter No. 20; for the 2006-2007 Strategic Plan, see pp. 11-13 in this issue.]

- a) (1.1) The German translation of our brochure *Library-based Literacy Programs: some practical suggestions* is now on the Reading Section Web site. Electronic copies of the Malay and Russian translations have still not been supplied. Rob Sarjant has been investigating a Swahili version.

First Meeting Minutes continued:

b) (1.2) Plans for marking the UN Decade of Literacy are still continuing. The Newsletter normally carries some information and references.

c) (1.3) John Cole gave an update on the expansion of the *Centres for the Book* project. He had met with Russian colleagues in May, and there were now 36 centres in Russia. He suggested a joint report, together with Maria Vedenyapina, at our next meeting.

Gwynneth Evans reported on a meeting at Easter at the new *Centre for the Book* in Capetown, South Africa. Staff of the Centre exchanged views on reading practices and publishing for children with Gwynneth, and another Canadian, Kathy Knowles, Executive Director of OSU Children's Library Fund in Ghana (see <<http://www.osuchildrenslibraryfund.ca>>). Each party shared copies of books and training materials to stimulate local publishing and reading promotion. Gwynneth also noted the topic of book donations, as reported on recently by UNESCO in their *Book Donations for Development* guide by Mauro Rosi (see <<http://www.codecan.org/english/donations.html>>), a publication to which she had contributed.

d) (1.4) Web site developments are noted as part of Briony Train's report, below.

e) (2.1) The exciting partnership between IFLA, IBBY (the International Board on Books for Young People) and the IRA (International Reading Association) signed by IFLA President Kay Raseroka during an international reading conference in Croatia was noted; the Reading Section hopes to be further involved in the resulting work.

f) (2.2) The Oslo Pre-Conference Event would be reported on later in the meeting.

g) (2.3) There would be no Reading Section speaker in the Division VII programme this year (but note *Recruitment and Careers* Session (No. 89) on Monday 15th August)

h) (2.4) The planning of this Pre-conference Event had been successfully completed.

i) (2.5) An English and Russian bi-lingual handbook with good ideas for reading promotion had been recently planned in St Petersburg, John Cole reported. The British Council was now a partner in this venture. A meeting was due in December, and publication was planned for 2006.

j) (3.1) Attempts have been made to extend the research methodology of our *Survey of Reader-Centred Services in Public Libraries* (see: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s33/project/irs.htm>) to Spanish and Russian-speaking libraries. Elsa Ramirez is to talk with Briony Train and Gwynneth Evans about this matter, later in the present conference.

k) (3.2) Gwynneth Evans called for all news of research to be submitted to Briony Train, so that it could be promoted on the Web site.

l) (3.3) All the Reading Section's papers since 1993 are now together on IFLANET.

m) (3.4) The proposed joint research project with the IRA (on identifying the hallmarks of literate societies) was discussed. Lisa Krolak mentioned a paper she had done on the evaluation of the impact of libraries on literacy.

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First Meeting Minutes continued:

She is having problems tracing impact measurements for public library services, and in the ensuing discussion she was offered suggestions from Elsa Ramirez, Barbara Coombs, Yvonne Appiah, Briony Train, and Maureen White, about research in Ghana, Mozambique, Ireland and the USA. The exchange reinforced the importance of sending references to Briony Train (see k above).

6. Report from the Chair:

Additional comments from the Chair are contained within the Strategic Plan report, item 5 above.

7. Report from the Treasurer:

Funding had been obtained from the IRA for production of the Spanish language version of the brochure, so the Section has a small amount of money still in the bank.

Elsa Ramirez suggested that support from the IFLA ALP Core Programme, through the South American Section, may be available if the Reading Section does work relating to the survey of reader-centred services in public libraries.

8. Reports from the Secretary, the Information Officer and the Newsletter Editor:

From the Secretary:

Alec Williams reported on his contribution to planning the Pre-Conference Event; he had assisted with chairing discussion groups, and would be typing up the results of all groups.

Alec also reported on current membership of the Reading Section, and noted that Rustem Aygistov, Ivar Haug and Catharina Stenberg would reach the end of their terms of office this year. He welcomed Leikny Haga Indergaard from Norway to membership of the Section – she would be attending the second meeting on 19th August.

Thomas Quigley's term as Associate Member ended this year

From the Information Officer:

a) Papers from the Open Session: Briony Train noted that in addition to English, the call had been translated into French, German, Russian, and Spanish this year. There was a good response to the call – more focussed than in previous years – and the quality of submissions was high. Only one French language paper had been submitted.

The final choice had been papers from Norway (Morten Haugen), Thailand (Supanee Varatorn), Barcelona (Maria Carme Galve Montore) and the UK (Robert Sarjant). Supanee Varatorn was unable to attend to present the Thailand paper, but this was now on the Section's website (see: < <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/papers/138e-Varatorn.pdf>>). All the papers are available in French translations.

b) Section Web site: Briony reported that:

- the conference papers are now up on the Web site
- many new Web site links have been added
- all websites mentioned in the Pre-conference Event have been added
- new publications have been added – but more are needed.

Briony asked members to look at the Web site, and consider any additions or improvements. She stressed that if urgent items are to appear on the site, at least two weeks notice is needed.

Clemencia Montalvo suggested a link with the CERLALC site (*this has been done*).

First meeting minutes continued:

From the Newsletter Editor:

John Cole congratulated Briony on all her work on the Web site, and confirmed that all newsletter issues are now up on the site.

Alec Williams mentioned that he had taken photographs at the Pre-conference Event, which he would pass on to the Newsletter Editor. He asked for any further photographs taken by members to be similarly forwarded.

9. Report on the Pre-conference Invitational Event, on 12th August:

Gwynneth Evans had quickly examined the evaluation reports, and there had been very strong positive feedback. John Cole thanked Gwynneth, adding that he thought it the most successful Pre-Conference Event the Section had done.

The event would be followed up by:

- a link being made from the IASL Web site (see: <<http://www.iasl-slo.org/ifla2005-papers.html>>) to the Reading Section site on IFLANET
- the discussion group reports being sent to participants, and the IASL Web site
- a report based on the papers, and the evaluation, being sent to the Professional Committee.

10. Section Projects:

- a) Maureen White reported on the *Reading Celebrations Calendar* project, describing the structure of the calendar, and recommending that members see it at the poster session.
- b) Mariétou asked about events she had reported from French-speaking Africa, and Gwynneth and Alec offered to check receipt of these (*later confirmed*). Lisa promised to send a link to the UNESCO 'Aladin' Web site (see: <<http://www.unesco.org/education/aladin>>), to Briony.

11. Programme for Oslo:

All the papers had been mounted on the Web site, and were on the CD-ROM version of the conference. Members were invited to attend the section's open session, *Libraries, Literacy and Partnerships: Voyages and Discoveries*, at 1.45pm on 16 August, at the Folketshus Kongressenter building.

12. UN Literacy Decade: Continuing involvement:

The section was continuing to play a part in this, and Gwynneth referred members to Gayner Eyre's paper from the Pre-Conference Event, outlining the state of literacy today (see: <<http://www.iasl-slo.org/ifla2005-eyre.doc>>).

13. Any Other Business:

- a) Elsa Ramirez praised the Pre-Conference Event, which she had enjoyed. She also mentioned databases which she is presently compiling – one on reading and libraries as featured in movies, and one on reading and libraries as featured in literature.
- b) Martine Jan also added her congratulations for the Pre-Conference Event, and reported on new plans for reading in her médiathèque.
- c) Barbara Combes reported on a conference on School Libraries to be held in October, a Books for Babies programme at local libraries, and a doctoral student who was working on a thesis about reading.

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First Meeting Minutes continued:

- d) Yvonne Appiah reported on reading promotions around the world, including a Reading Week in Mali, Kenyan Donkey Libraries, and Boat Libraries in Central America. A Canadian video had recently spotlighted unusual rural library services.
- e) Elke Dreisbach promised to write a report on the Pre-Conference Event for a German journal.
- f) Mariétou Diongue Diop reported on a new library initiative in Senegal, for which volunteers would provide the staffing. She is currently training her students in the importance of reading, and is working to integrate libraries and reading in all sections of the library studies curriculum.
- g) Elizabeth Carvalho (from IFLA's *Latin American and the Caribbean* Section) attended briefly at the end of the meeting, and asked for further co-operation between her section and the Reading Section.

14. Close

There being no other business, the meeting closed, and members joined together in a nearby restaurant for an informal lunch. The Section wishes to thank Ivar Haug and his Library Service for their generous hospitality.

Alec Williams
October 2005

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**SECTION ON READING
MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
Oslo, Norway - 19 August 2005**

Present:

Standing Committee Members: John Cole, Mariétou Diongue Diop, Jérémie Desjardins, Gwynneth Evans, Leikny Haga Indergaard, Cindy Lombardo, Martine Jan, Briony Train, Alec Williams.

Associate Members: Elsa Ramirez, Lisa Krolak.

Other visitors: Corrado Di Tillio (Italy), Alim Garga (Cameroon), Martina Dragija Ivanovic (Croatia), Samia Kamarti (Tunisia), Ahmed Ksibi (Tunisia), Clemencia Montalvo (Colombia), Gertrude Kayaga Mulindwa (Uganda), Irina Romanova (Russia), Jofrid Karner Smidt (Norway), Valeria Stelmakh (Russia), Catharina Stenberg (Sweden), Dato Zawiyah Baba (Malaysia).



1. Introduction of Members, and Apologies for Absence:

Gwynneth Evans welcomed all participants, who briefly introduced themselves. Apologies had been received from: Ivar Haug, Elke Dreisbach, Robert Sarjant (UK), Maureen White (USA).

2. Debriefing on Open Session:

A total of 203 people attended the Section's Open Session on 16 August. Valeria Stelmakh had found it an excellent session, and other members added their congratulations.

All the papers are on the IFLA Web site (see: <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/Programme.htm>, Session 118>), and many are translated into two languages.

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Second Meeting Minutes continued:

John Cole added that, in the event, he felt that three presentations had been enough.

Gwynneth Evans drew members' attention to other papers on reading that had been given during the conference - for example, the one by Linn Ullmann on 18 August.

3. Selection of Paper for possible publication in the IFLA Journal:

The Section Officers proposed that Morten Haugen's paper, Reading and Non-Reading among male juvenile Norwegians, should be put forward. This was agreed.

4. Discussion of programmes for future conferences:

Seoul, 2006:

Alec Williams outlined a draft proposal regarding Family Reading, which had arisen from a working group between the Reading and the Children's and Young Adults Sections. He circulated copies of the proposal, which suggested three main speakers (Young Sook Song from Korea, Jim Wile from the USA, and Briony Train from the UK), plus six short presentations on best practice from different continents.

Lisa Krolak supported the proposal, and offered material. Alim Garga also supported the theme. Mariétou welcomed the theme, finding it very useful, but was concerned about the number of speakers required to cover every continent.

Leikny Indergaard was also concerned about the number of speakers.

Jérémie Desjardins asked if there would be a call for papers to provide speakers from different continents; he felt this would be useful, and was supported by Catharina Stenberg, Cindy Lombardo and Mariétou Diongue Diop. Gwynneth Evans assured members that the organisers would ask for simultaneous translation; the Reading Section has had simultaneous interpretation at its previous sessions.

Finally, the following points were agreed (subject to liaison with the C&YA Section):

- The number of continents featured should be reduced to four, with the Reading Section doing Africa and Latin America, and the Children's and Young Adult Section doing Europe and Asia.
 - A call (or calls) for papers should be made (Mariétou offered to do this for the continent of Africa, but no action has yet been agreed on Latin America)
 - Briony Train, since she is proposed as a speaker, would not be involved in producing a call in 2006.
- Alec Williams agreed to take these comments back to the Children's and Young Adult Section, and to enquire how the proposal had been received in their Section meeting.

Durban, 2007:

Gwynneth Evans reported on discussions with both the School Libraries Section and the Public Libraries Section. The possible theme of 'Library Materials and Initiatives to support the fight against HIV Aids' was suggested. The proposal would also involve colleagues from South Africa, along with publishers, the Centre for the Book, and others.

If all three sections were to bid for a session, it could comprise a total of six hours.

Cindy Lombardo asked if this proposal could form the subject of a Pre-Conference Event;

Gwynneth Evans said she would enquire about this.

Elsa Ramirez asked about the involvement of the IFLA Section on Women's Issues, the future of which is currently being discussed.

Cindy Lombardo suggested broadening the theme to health issues in general.

Valeria suggested the inclusion of something on the oral and written traditions.



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Second Meeting Minutes continued:

Quebec, 2008: A proposal had been received from Allan Kleiman of the American Library Association, about co-operating with the Reading Section to explore the subject of Library Services to an Aging Population.



5. Development of Section Priorities, 2005-2006:

Gwynneth Evans conducted a discussion with members about possible priorities for the next year. Ideas that arose included:

- Different Literacies – libraries’ role in these, and mapping them for the 21st Century.
- Conference planning
- Take action on the results of the Pre-Conference (Gwynneth agreed to ask Norwegian colleagues about a CD-ROM and pamphlet)
- Electronic Reading (supported by Valeria Stelmakh)
- A Reading society – what components comprise it? (This is the subject of the joint IRA/Reading Section research discussion)

6. Links with other sections:

Sections suggested for future links included National Libraries, Collection Acquisition and Development, Management of Library Associations, Libraries in Parliaments, Marketing and Management, and the African and Latin American Sections.

Gertrude Mulindwa asked about links to other organisations, such as the IRA, and Gwynneth Evans replied, reporting on the recent Memorandum of Understanding between IFLA, IRA and IBBY.

Contact with UNESCO was also suggested.

7. Section projects:

a) The Reading Celebrations project: Alec Williams reported in Maureen White’s absence, and drew members’ attention to the excellent way in which this has now been developed, including a CD-ROM version, and posters. He thanked Maureen and her colleagues for all their work on the project. For the time being, the calendar will remain on the site of Maureen’s University, with a link from the Reading Section site.

b) The Best Practice in Reading Promotion brochure: There was much discussion on this topic, with some speakers supporting a thematic approach (Cindy Lombardo, Irina Romanova), and others a regional one. The bi-lingual English-Russian publication (see first Section Meeting, point 5(i) in the minutes) could provide a model.

Ahmed Ksibi, and other speakers, argued that appropriate illustrations (preferably in colour) were very important. This point had been well illustrated at the Pre-conference Event.

Gwynneth Evans proposed that initially this project be started as a pdf file on the IFLA Web site, with printing and design considered later, when material had been collected.

8. Reports from members:

a) Gwynneth Evans presented certificates to Catharina Stenberg, Ivar Haug (given via Leikny Indergaard), and John Cole, for their service to the Reading Section.

b) Gwynneth also congratulated Valeria Stelmakh on her IFLA Honour, presented the day before, at the IFLA Council Meeting.

c) Gwynneth reported to members that she had been elected Chair of Division VII, and was congratulated by those present.

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SECTION ON READING STRATEGIC PLAN 2006-2007

MISSION

The Mission of the Reading Section is to assist IFLA in effectively fulfilling one of its key professional priorities: promoting literacy, reading, and lifelong learning. This priority is comprehensive in its understanding of literacy, from basic literacy to information literacy, and its comprehension of reading and of lifelong learning. (See the description of this priority)

In undertaking support for and coordination of activities related to literacy, reading and lifelong learning that increase the literacy of all people, the Reading Section recognizes the importance of former President Raseroka's theme for 2003-2005: Libraries for Lifelong Literacy and also the UN Decade of Literacy 2003-2012. It will contribute to plans to ensure the contribution of libraries to this Decade for approval by IFLA. It also incorporates the importance of partnerships, recognized as the theme of President Byrne for 2005-2007.

The nature of this professional priority ensures that strong programming related to research, education and training and best practice will, by extension, support the other priorities: supporting the role of libraries in society; defending the principle of freedom of information; preserving our intellectual heritage; developing library professionals; promoting standards, guidelines and best practices; representing libraries in the technological marketplace; providing unrestricted access to information; balancing the intellectual property rights of authors with the needs of users; and promoting resource sharing.

As literacy is the foundation of the work of all division and sections, the Reading Section welcomes the opportunity to work cooperatively, both within IFLA and beyond. It is pleased to act in an advisory and resource capacity to any group wishing to know more about the role of libraries in literacy and reading promotion programmes.

IFLA has organized all its activities within three Pillars: Society: Profession and Membership. The mandate of the Reading Section is both outwardly focused toward Society, but also supportive of both Profession and Membership.

GOALS:

1. Help libraries worldwide develop projects and programmes that encourage and support literacy, reading, and lifelong learning.

Actions

1.1 To distribute, demonstrate and promote the use of the brochure "Library-Based Literacy Programs: Some Practical Suggestions"; to promote its translation into all of IFLA's official languages and as many national languages, as possible; to make the translations accessible on the web; and, where possible, to support the printing of those in IFLA languages.

1.2 To contribute to the development and implementation of a plan to be considered by the Governing Board to assist IFLA and its members to mark the UNESCO Decade of Literacy (2003-2012) and to ensure the contribution and recognition of libraries in research and the development and practice of literacy, information literacy and lifelong learning, taking into account the diversity of cultures, languages and economic and social circumstances, and supporting the theme "Libraries for Lifelong Literacy".

1.3 To assist IFLA in the implementation of the formal Partnership Agreement with the International Reading Association (IRA) and the International board on Books for Young People (IBBY).

1.4 To continue to develop, share the results, and possibly expand to other nations the "Book Centers" reading promotion project launched in 2001 by Russian and U.S. reading promoters with the support of the Open Society Institute.

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2006-2007 STRATEGIC PLAN continued:

1.5 To serve, through IFLANET and with links to and with other Web sites, as a resource and advocate for information about literacy and reading promotion projects/programmes and events worldwide.

2. Through meetings, discussion, research, publications, and widespread dissemination of information on IFLANET, encourage a better understanding of reading, literacy, and book culture in specific cultural milieus.

Actions

2.1 To identify and encourage the sharing of research and best practices in the sponsoring of appropriate literacy and reading events and celebrations, in cooperation with other national and international cultural, literacy, and reading organizations (e.g., marking International Literacy Day (8 September) in cooperation with the International Reading Association and its national associations and the International Literacy Network; marking World Book and Copyright Day (23 April) in cooperation with UNESCO and its national commissions; and to honour specific achievements in the worlds of literacy and reading development in cooperation with the International Book Committee, the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) and other groups, such as the International Reading Association and its national/regional associations).

2.2 To continue to support and maintain "Celebrate Reading Worldwide: An Interactive Calendar of Reading Promotions" begun in 2003 as a Reading Section project and coordinated at the University of Houston, Clear Water.

2.3 To plan an Open Session at the 2006 IFLA conference in Seoul, Korea, in cooperation with the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section on the theme Family Reading and based on the General theme, Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society and to support other programmes related to this topic.

2.4 To support and take part in Division VII's Programme, when the topic is relevant.

2.5 To complete and disseminate the report and take appropriate actions related to Pre-conference Seminar in Norway, held on 12 August 2005, in conjunction with the School Libraries and Resource Centres Section.

2.6 To promote, in cooperation with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Russian libraries and the British Council, a reading promotion "handbook" that illustrates and describes good ideas for promoting reading from around the world.

3. Monitor, promote, and disseminate research and research results about reading, readers, reading promotion, literacy, and library services to readers.

Actions

3.1 Building on the Section's 2001-2002 survey of reader-centered services in public libraries, support extending the research and research methodology to Latin American libraries, in cooperation with the Latin American Section.

3.2 To continue and strengthen the "Reports on Current Research in Reading and Literacy" column in the Section on Reading Newsletter.

3.3 To ensure that the papers presented at the Reading Section's Open Session at the 2005 conference in Oslo are on IFLANET, with a link to the papers presented at the pre-conference on the IASL Web site, and to encourage the publication of the papers as widely as possible in relevant journals and newsletters.

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2006-2007 STRATEGIC PLAN continued:

3.4 To continue the development and implementation of a joint research project with the International Reading Association (IRA) on the hallmarks of a literate environment to support the learning and practice of literacy and the love of reading and writing.

4. Increase membership on the Standing Committee and in the Section on Reading.

Actions

4.1 To update and publish the Section's membership brochure on IFLANET in as many IFLA languages as possible, and, where feasible, to make print copies available.

4.2 To increase the Section's visibility by cooperating actively with organizations outside IFLA, such as the International Reading Association and the International Board of Books for Children (IBBY) and with IFLA units that have similar interests.

4.3 To publicize the Section's activities systematically and encourage more IFLA institutional members to join the Section on Reading.

October 2005 ■

Second Meeting Minutes Continued:

d) Valeria Stelmakh reported on further developments in Reading Centres in Russia, and on an International Festival on Children's Reading planned for October 2005. Irina Romanova added further details about this event, which would have Ludmilla Putina as its patron, and was expected to attract 10,000 people in total. The British Council was sending two speakers from the UK, Annie Everall (also on the IFLA Children's And Young Adult Section) and Miranda McKearney.

e) Catharina Stenberg reported on a reading network among library schools in Nordic countries.

f) Jofrid Smidt added his support to this, and emphasised the role of reading, given the rise of ICT in the curriculum.

g) Elsa Ramirez noted that reading was gaining in importance in the library education curriculum in Mexico.

h) Ahmed Ksibi reported on the coming Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (16 – 18 November 2005), including a meeting on Information Literacy (6 – 8 November), and a pre-summit conference in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, in Alexandria (10 – 11 November).

i) Jérémie Desjardins reported on the National Authority on Public Libraries in Europe (NAPLE; see: <<http://www.naple.info/index.htm>>). Its second Conference "The Role of Public Libraries in National Policies of Developing a Knowledge Society" (Digitalization of Cultural Heritage and Implementation of Multiculturalism in Libraries), will be held in Supetar, Croatia, from 5 – 8 October 2005.

He also reported on the Federation of European Publishers (see: <<http://www.fep-fee.be/eframprinc.htm>>), a European-funded body with its origins in bookselling that is conducting a survey of reading promotion policies across Europe.

9. Any other business

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

Alec Williams

October 2005 ■

WEB SITES OF INTEREST:

THE INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DIGITAL LIBRARY LAUNCHES REDESIGNED WEB SITE

The Web site for the International Children's Digital Library (ICDL) at <<http://www.icdlbooks.org>> has undergone a total redesign and is now sporting a fresh, new look! At almost three years old, the ICDL had outgrown its old look and was ready for a complete makeover, but the changes made are more than just cosmetic. In addition to a bold new logo and attractive color scheme, viewers will find informative updates and enhanced functionality.

The new ICDL design is based on feedback from our volunteer ambassadors, advisors, and local community members, as well as research with our College Park Kidsteam.

It is now easier than ever to get involved with the ICDL as an ambassador to help introduce the ICDL to people all around the world, or as a translator to help make the Web site more accessible to a multi-language audience. Thanks to volunteers at the Semiotic Engineering Research Lab in Brazil, the Web interface is now available in Portuguese, bringing the count to ten interface languages, including Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Filipino/Tagalog, German, Hebrew, Persian/Farsi, and Spanish.

Users who choose to join the ICDL Library can also take advantage of new member features. By signing up for a my ICDL Account, users can not only select language preferences, they can now customize their personal bookshelves. The bookshelf feature allows registered users to save all their personal favorite ICDL books in one place. This provides a great way for teachers to create classroom profiles and select specific books for their classroom bookshelves that they want their students to read. Books saved on a personal bookshelf also have virtual bookmarks. The bookshelf remembers the last page a user read in each book on the shelf. Kids (and adults) can further customize their accounts with fun themes based on monsters that guard their bookshelves!

In addition, a full archive of past announcements has been compiled to reflect the ICDL's history and progress. Users can look back at how the ICDL has grown and evolved with news about our project research, collection development efforts, and technology advancements. With more than 800 books in the collection, representing 43 countries and 32 languages, the ICDL has attracted large audiences young and old worldwide. More than 500,000 unique visitors from 158 countries have accessed the ICDL to learn more about the project and view books in the collection. Looking ahead to the third anniversary of the International Children's Digital Library, the ICDL Research Team hopes that users will find the new Web site accessible and easy to navigate in order to continue serving our diverse audience of children and adults around the world.

Contact Mary Ramos, ICDL Press Coordinator, <icdl-info@cs.umd.edu>, 301/405-4197 (tel), 301/314-9145 (fax)

■OTHER WEB SITES TO VISIT:

Do you know a library programme that is eligible for a UNESCO Education prize? Learn more about them at: <<http://www.unesco.org/education/html/prizes.shtml>>.

Does your library celebrate International Days recognized by the UN system? Check the list at: <http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=7588&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html>.

Do you know about the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries Programme. Read about it and the importance of partnerships at: <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/Programme.htm>> (Session 104, Public Libraries and Partnerships).

Do you know about the international reading promotion partners of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress? Visit the Center's Web site at: <<http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/>> and click on Reading Promotion Partners.

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The Section on Reading needs more members, especially from Africa and Latin America. Please consider joining us in our important work of promoting reading and literacy in the digital age. Contact any of the members in this issue or IFLA Headquarters, % Ms. Kelly J. Moore, Membership Manager, P.O. Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands, fax: +31-70-3834827, e-mail: <kelly.moore@ifla.org>.

This newsletter is edited by Standing Committee Associate Member John Y. Cole, Center for the Book, Library of Congress; news and articles are welcome and should be sent to <jcole@loc.gov>. It is produced and distributed by the center with the assistance of Maurvene D. Williams, Program Officer, and Patricia White, Executive Assistant.

Visit the Section on IFLANET at: <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s33/sr.htm>>