



Minutes: Interim Standing Committee Meeting 1 & 2

IFLA Reference Work Section

Berlin, Germany: August 2003

Introductions and Regrets

Agenda approved

Chair's Report: (Annsofie Oscarsson)

- The new title for the conference is WLIC: World Library and Information Congress.
- 2003-2007 is considered the first term for all Standing Committee members whether or not they were on the interim SC.
- Annsofie reviewed materials mailed out, including resolutions and changes in the Buenos Aires conference schedule.
- Our revised strategic plan is due on October 1.
- Committee's IFLA booth time is on Tuesday.

Election of Officers: Annsofie was elected for a 2-year term as Chair. Marty was elected for a 2-year term as Secretary/Financial Officer. Both were elected by acclamation.

Financial Report: Project funds are still available for the Digital Reference Project (coordinated by Diane Kresh) and from administrative funds. All funds must be expended by the end of 2003. Plans for using up funds were discussed. For project funds, funds can be used to develop a poster session for the Buenos Aires conference as well as to print out the guidelines as a brochure. Diane Kresh and committee will follow up with this. Marty needs bills by the end of the year. For administrative funds, money will be used to translate our information brochure into Russian and remaining funds will be used to compensate University of Delaware for color printing costs. Administrative funds for next year can also be used to hire a student to help with the newsletter layout.

Information Officer: Cathy mailed out the newsletter to all section members and has gotten everything up on IFLANET. Josje and Birgitta volunteered to assist Cathy with the newsletter.

Other Business: Annsofie reviewed how section membership takes place.

Strategic Planning: It was decided to do much of the work on the plan after the conference. Kay Roseroka's theme of lifelong learning needs to be put into the mission for our section. A task force was set up to work on the strategic plan including Josje (convener), Annsofie, Cathy, Beth, and Concha.

The committee reviewed plans for the Berlin Conference: open session and workshop.

Interim Standing Committee Meeting II

Report on Berlin Conference: Open session program and workshop went well. Also the workshop with Serials SC did well. Ann provided some notes from the discussions at the beginning of the workshop.

Digital Reference Guidelines: Diane will update all comments received and develop a new draft. Deadline for the final draft was decided to be October 15.

New Projects: Discussion of Marty's proposal of a Reference Technology Toolkit. SC members wondered how useful a toolkit such as this might be for developing countries, in particular many European countries where libraries collaborate on a national level. Focus was changed to a reference toolkit for developing countries to include materials on how to develop a reference service, training checklist, guidelines, staffing, etc. etc. This will be a one-year project that can serve as preliminary work towards a larger multi-year project of the SC working with the Information Literacy SC and Division 8. The plan is to develop a large project proposal to be submitted at the conference in Buenos Aires. Focus on the large project may be on developing training materials/resources for librarians in developing countries on how to provide reference services. Franceen will lead this effort and other members of our SC interested in working on the proposal include Marty, Valentina, Petra, and Amanda. Jesus Lau, chair of the Information Literacy SC, has expressed interest in working with us.

Greenlight Task Force: By 2007, our SC will be evaluated (as well as all others) and we need to be prepared. Our roadmap is our strategic plan. Advocacy for reference services needs to be a key component of our planning.

Listservs: Beth attended the Information Coordinators Meeting and has agreed to manage the section's listserv and move it to IFLANET. Also, Beth suggested a second listserv for those interested in the work of the section. The decision was to create two lists. The first list, REFSC, will be limited to current members and corresponding members of the SC and will be used for committee business. The second list, IFLAREF, will be trialed for approximately a 6-month period. This list will be open to anyone interested in the work of the Reference Work SC. Past members of the section will be invited to join this second list.

Buenos Aires: We are limited to a single 2-hour session for the first time. The idea emerged of a working title of "Reference Toolkit for the 21st Century" with the following sub-themes: guidelines, skills sets needed by reference librarians today (e.g. negotiations on licensing), training and continuing education, marketing, and management. A subgroup that will work on our program includes: Diane (convenor), Uwe, Bodil, and Beth. Diane's project group for virtual reference guidelines will work on organizing a poster session to highlight their work and this might also be tied in some way to our program session. Diane will handle the poster session application form.

Oslo: Gunilla provided background information for a pre-conference co-sponsored by the Finnish Library Association on the topic of "Virtual vs. Physical Library?" Pre-conference site would be 50km north of Helsinki on August 11-12, 2005. A study tour to Finnish libraries is planned the day before on August 10. Gunilla, along with Birgitta, will work on plans for the pre-conference and topics related to the reference work section. For an Oslo program by our SC, we did a little brainstorming and the following ideas emerged:

- Assessment/evaluation of reference, usability studies, quality and performance measures, surveys and needs assessment, and filters of information.

- Co-sponsorship should be considered, which would allow us to have a longer session or two sessions on these topics.

From CB2: Our division contact for Oslo is Torill Redse: torill.redse@abm-utvikling.no
Our division contact for Buenos Aires is Pedro Faltato: pfalcato@acesoplus.com

Respectfully submitted,
Marty Kesselman, Secretary/Financial Officer