



Management of Library Associations SECTION NEWSLETTER

April 2008 Edition

Standing Committee Chair

- NEWS:
Netherlands
Centennial
Celebrations
- Advocacy in the
Pacific
- Get Ready for
Quebec

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<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/>

Dear MLAS members and friends ,

It is a great honour to be Chair of the Management of Library Associations Section's Standing Committee (MLAS SC). After practicing for several months my new post, I can say it is both rewarding and challenging.

Rewarding is to work with so many enthusiastic and professional colleagues from all over the world aiming at the same goal: strengthening the work, leadership skills and influence of library associations, networking the volunteer and hired staff of library associations and representing the point of view of library associations within IFLA as a rule and within the Governing Board (GB) of IFLA especially.

Challenging are the many new procedures and details in the IFLA work I have to learn when starting both as the Chair of MLAS Standing Committee and as a co-opted Member of the Governing Board at the same time. I have been Member of MLAS SC since 2003. I started in Durban 2007 my 2nd term in MLAS. It was good training for the post of

Chair to be a Member of SC, but only now I have seen what all the Chair is responsible for. Also only now I have better understanding on what all IFLA is doing for the libraries, library professionals and library associations worldwide. It is a huge task IFLA is carrying out. I am now even more proud and happy to be part of that great mission IFLA has.

Members of MLAS SC have been busy after Durban in preparing the programme for Quebec together with Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CDPWL) and Action for Development through Libraries Core Programme (ALP). We are now ready with our work and finalize the content of our programme LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND ADVOCACY FOR LIBRARIES : BEST PRACTICES IN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT. There we have speakers from Latin America, Africa, Asia & Oceania, Canada, USA and Singapore. I wish you welcome to the MLAS Programme in Quebec.

We have also updated the MLAS Strategic Plan for the next term 2008-2009. You find in this Newsletter

and on the MLAS website the new plan based on the three pillars of IFLA: Society, Profession and Membership.

I also urge all National and International Library Associations to be represented physically or by proxy at the IFLA Council Meeting. According to the IFLA Statutes it is up those associations to constitute the quorum and to make the Council able to decide. In Quebec the revision of the IFLA Statutes is on the Council agenda. We have therefore an important role to play and I would like us to carry our responsibility in this matter.

MLAS SC had a successful Mid Year Meeting in Granada on the 14th-16th February. We publish here some highlights of the meeting in this Newsletter. We also wish you all take actively part in the MLAS SC Meetings in Quebec on Sat 9th August and on Fri 15th Aug 2008.

See you in Quebec!

For more information about the section or our upcoming meetings, please feel free to contact me at sinikka.sipila@fla.fi

Sinikka Sipila
Secretary General
Finnish Library Association
Chair, IFLA MLAS

MLAS Newsletter Co-ordinator's Note

Dear MLAS Colleagues,

This newsletter has been slightly smoother than the last to produce. Thanks to all those who have sent articles in advance, or on time !

I hope that you are like me and pouring over the Quebec Announcement to decide on flights, a place to stay and other visits to Canada.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you again, or for the first time.

Sinikka is keeping the Section really 'ticking along' now, so if you would like to suggest anything or contribute at any time, please contact any of the Section Committee Members.

Remember, you don't need to be on the committee to make a

contribution – we will take any volunteers for small and big tasks ! Just get involved in whatever way you can.

Stories, snippets and photos for the next edition of the newsletter will be due after the WLIC Quebec to Sue Hutley sue.hutley@alia.org.au

Get Ready for Quebec

Have you booked yet for Quebec ?

Earlybird registration closes 7th May 2008.

Please note that the Standing Committee meetings are held on the day before and the day after the conference and all interested delegates from Library Associations around the world are most welcome to attend these meetings.

Keep an eye on the conference website

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm>

or even on the Facebook group site

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2955660178>

and on the MLAS e-list for updates.

Details of other satellite meetings are also on the conference website.

and ...

Participate in our joint Programme Session - Leadership Skills and Advocacy for Libraries : Best Practices in the Library Association Management.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS TO IFLA

Library associations have a vital role in recruiting new members to IFLA. The MLAS appeals to all library associations to monitor the potential new members in their countries. New members from associations, institutions, professionals and students are important to the vitality and strength of IFLA.

Please find more information on membership at <http://www.ifla.org/III/members/index.htm>



IFLA Net – getting a makeover

Em Claire Knowles from Simmons College Boston, MA (WIL DG representative) and Sue Hutley (MLAS Newsletter Editor), have both joined the IFLAnet working group and are looking forward to participating in this IFLA project which aims to redesign Iflanet to better promote all IFLA activities and services,

Please contact Em Claire or Sue Hutley if you have any ideas related to the website:

emclaire.knowles@simmons.edu

sue.hutley@alia.org.au

The Global Library Association Development programme (GLAD)

Goals

The IFLA GLAD Twinning programme aims to develop current and potential leaders of library associations, as well as provide IFLA with a pool of qualified members to carry out its mission at all levels. The programme is focussed on meeting individual needs, identifying and applying professionally appropriate collaboration styles, and promoting professional growth. Twinning arrangements will be made between Mentors and Mentees. The mentor will serve as a resource to the mentee by providing guidance in professional development, coaching, and other non-financial support. Through mutual trust and respect, the mentor will provide assistance and guidance to enhance the personal and professional growth of the mentee. This assistance will be confidential and non-evaluative. Mentoring can be either face-to-face, or via electronic means.

Mentors

Representatives of library associations with particular expertise in various aspects of association management may offer their services as Mentors. Potential mentors should submit an application through the GLAD website.

Mentees

Representatives of library associations who would like assistance with developing particular elements of their association work may request to become Mentees. Potential mentees should submit an application through the GLAD website.

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/>

<https://cs.ala.org/iro/GLAD/search.cfm>

MLAS Mid-Term Meeting 14th -16th February 2008 GRANADA, SPAIN

MLAS Committee members enjoying Granada!
(brief minutes are on page 6)



Thank You Duane ...



Duane Webster, ARL Executive Director retires.

Thank you once more for all the work and time you have dedicated to RTMLA and MLAS throughout the years!
(Keith Fiels – left, Duane Webster – right)

Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group Update

Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group

We need the support of both library associations and individual members within the IFLA family. We hope many of you would feel inspired by the WIL DG program and will join us at our session in Quebec City.

If you would like to help facilitating one of the workshops or have any ideas on how to develop the Big Sister, Little sister mentorship scheme, do not hesitate to contact me, Maria Cotera: m.cotera@cul.ac.uk

To receive news and contribute ideas to the programme for Quebec, join our mailing list WILL-L:

<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wsypma.fcgi/info/will-l>

As you know, the Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group (WIL DG) is being sponsored by the Management of Library Associations Section. The Discussion Group focuses on women as users of library and information services, as workers in the library field, and as providers of information. Our mission is the promotion, development and support of library and information services for the benefit of women, and society as a whole.

Our Durban program focused on women's professional contribution to the UNESCO Millennium Development Goals. The presentations delivered by our four speakers were truly inspirational and attracted lots of interest from the 200+ strong audience. Right after the session we had an extremely well attended meeting with delegates interested in collaborating with the discussion group; this helped us establish the focus of WIL's future work.

Three threads for the Group conveners to follow emerged from that meeting:

Woman professionals would like to communicate and share experiences throughout the year, not only at the annual conference. We discussed further promoting our mailing list WILL-L, and starting a discussion group newsletter. Adetoun Oyelude from the Kenneth Dike Library, University of

Ibadan, Nigeria, kindly volunteered to become our Newsletter Coordinator and has been preparing our first newsletter which will be out at the end of April. If you have any news of interest do not hesitate to send them to Toun at: toyelude@yahoo.com

Women professionals (especially those in developing countries) are in need of grants and financial assistance to enable them to attend future IFLA conferences.

It was proposed to create a directory of institutions which could offer development grants to women professionals. WIL DG Convener Nthabiseng Kotsokoane, Chief Librarian of the Monash South Africa Library is leading this idea. If your library association offers grants for attendance to Quebec City Conference or you know of any such initiatives, we will be delighted to promote them, so please get in touch with Ntabi: nthabiseng.kotsokoane@lib.monash.edu

Women professionals are in need of mentorship and support from colleagues. The idea of starting a Big Sister-Little Sister mentorship scheme came up, and we hope to materialise this at the forthcoming Conference.

The WIL DG theme for Quebec City "Putting Women on the Agenda" would move away from the traditional program of speakers presenting papers in a lecture style. We aim to do a session

based on interactive workshops. The idea is to present several workshops of 45 minutes each and give delegates the opportunity to choose to participate in two of them. We are planning to hold workshops in several IFLA official languages, English, French and Spanish at least, to cater for a wider range of delegates.

Michele M. Reid, Director of Hoover Library, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD, has kindly agreed to act as the overall workshop leader and is helping us putting the program together based on their own Partnership for Development Program. We hope you would like these ideas and welcome suggestions on themes which would attract interest from our international audience. Our objective is to give women professionals the opportunity to share experiences, be inspired by others, learn something new, and hopefully help facilitating some individual partnerships between delegates from different countries.

We are calling on you, experienced and committed activists who have been working for years to put women on the agenda; your presence and support would not only guarantee attendance, but also inspire delegates.

Hoping to hear from you and/or to see you in August in Quebec City!

Maria Cotera, WIL DG Convener, University College London, UK

Centennial Celebrations

The Netherlands Public Library Association 1908-2008

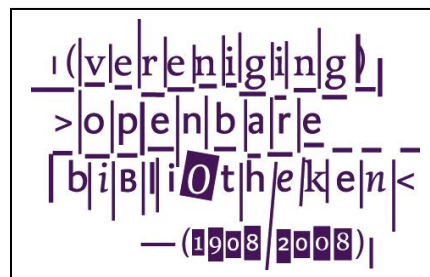
On 18th of April 1908, the first six public libraries in the Netherlands decided to found a central Association for public reading rooms and libraries. So the year 2008 has a special meaning for Dutch public librarians with a sense for history. How many professionals have been giving their best efforts, inspiration, energy and time to build up the current network of more than a thousand public libraries, mobile and digital services, user oriented programmes, national reading weeks and events etc.

The Association will celebrate its **centennial** in a modest way as large discussions are taking place about structures and strategies for the near future of public information services. A round of regional debates has focused on the digital library, human resource management, cultural entrepreneurship/marketing, collection diversification and visibility, and finally, the coherence of the information infrastructure and the role of the Association. A full agenda!

The Steering Group of government representatives and the association leading the restructuring of responsibilities and services will present its final report in the beginning of April, with a perspective and scenario for the coming 10 years. The Council for Culture is working on advisory reports regarding a new focus on the notion of public domain and on the library innovation process.

There is plenty of opportunity to visit the new public library in Amsterdam. We will there celebrate Amsterdam World Book Capital, with a **copyright** conference for publishers, authors and librarians on 21-22 April 2008, organised by the library umbrella FOBID, Netherlands Library Forum, of which the Association runs the secretariat.

Another opportunity will be the 9th of May 2008, for the international Conference on **Advocacy and Libraries**, which is organised in cooperation with EBLIDA, the European Library Lobby Bureau. Here we take the opportunity to welcome all our international colleagues to join, as we will celebrate our centennial in international context with a special publication on 100 years of public library development in various countries, and with a view to the future: working for five-star libraries.



Lifelong Learning, and support for careers and jobseeking are two items which the association has taken up in partnership with educational television. Local libraries are now setting up special units and spaces in the library. **Learning spaces, working places**, is the preliminary title for the Low Countries Library Link, 1-3 October in the Netherlands, a joint conference with Flanders, Goethe Institut and neighbouring countries.

Other discussion points in the coming time will be: possible extended library legislation. It is felt necessary to strengthen the public (domain) character of public library services, and the accessibility of access to information for everyone. It could be a good opportunity to confirm the restructuring process of creating larger library organisations and strengthen the coordination and coherence by a more content-rich library Act.

The Association works in strong cooperation with a number of marketing specialists to build up a national database of user group segmentations of all libraries. Customer profiles are described and will be presented in May 2008. This will help local libraries to target their services better to (potential) user groups, with customized services.

As a coincidence, the **National Book Week** is devoted to the third age, senior life. Libraries have searched for the oldest library user with a library card. A 103-year old lady was found: she borrows and reads regularly and will be honoured during the National Book Week, which libraries organise as partner with the publishers and booksellers.

Children's librarians have taken the initiative for a brain brunch with the publishers of children's literature. It was the outcome of a study programme including a visit to the Bologna Children's Book Fair 2007, where the contacts were re-established; joint effort for promotion of reading and creating attractive reading environment will be continued. The Netherlands Public Library Association organises an International Meeting for all (children's) librarians (and IFLA members) at the Book Fair, 2nd of April 2008: **JES: Join – Enjoy – Share**, where this year Patsy Aldana, president of IBBY will speak.

Information on these issues and conferences can be found on the English part of our website:

<http://www.debibliotheken.nl/>

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MLAS SC had a successful Mid-Year Meeting in Granada on the 14th -16th February 2008.

We publish here some highlights of the meeting for the MLAS members while the Minutes are in production.

QUORUM AT IFLA COUNCIL MEETINGS

MLAS SC had discussions on proposals concerning the quorum at IFLA Council meetings. We agreed on to suggest to IFLA GB that quorum would still be constituted by National and International Library Associations only.

According to IFLA Statutes the quorum at the Council meetings is constituted by the majority of National and International Library Association Members of IFLA. During last years it has been difficult to reach the quorum as all the National or International Library Associations have not taken part in the Council. MLAS SC also suggested and IFLA HQ agreed on to move the Council to an earlier stage in the WLIC Programme. In Quebec the Council will be held before the Closing Session on Thursday. In the future WLICs it will be held on Wednesday at 16.00 hours.

MLAS SC decided to work for two years to make library associations more aware of the importance of the participation physically or using proxy in the Council meetings. We will take this question up in MLAS Newsletters, in caucuses, at the National Library Associations Meetings and on other forums at IFLA Congresses.

We thought this might help as it perhaps is not quite clear to all National and International library associations that it is up to you to constitute the quorum. After two years we analyze the situation and see if our "Quorum Campaign" has helped. MLAS SC was not ready to give up and lower the requirements for the quorum. MLAS SC urges now all National and International library associations to take part in World Library and Information Congress and also to take part in the Council Meeting as reaching the quorum is up to the National and International Library Associations. We have to show now to IFLA GB we are ready to carry our responsibility as important key players in the IFLA governance.

IFLA MULTICULTURAL MANIFESTO

We also discussed on the Multicultural Manifesto and its approval by UNESCO. Kirsten Leth Nielsen, Chair of the IFLA Library Services for the Multicultural Populations Section from Norway informed MLAS that the IFLA Multicultural Manifesto will be dealt at IFAP Council Meeting in Paris in April. MLAS SC members and MLAS List members are asked to contact the UNESCO or IFAP Commissions, or both, in their countries to make the Multicultural Manifesto approved by UNESCO and more known by National UNESCO and IFAP Commissions.

IFAP AND WSIS

IFAP (Information for All Programme by Unesco) is the only intergovernmental programme exclusively dedicated to promoting universal access to information and knowledge. Information literacy is one of the priorities of the Programme.

On behalf of Winnie Vitzansky, Director of the Danish Library Association, Hellen Niegaard told about IFAP and the meeting in Paris on the 28th of January 2008 where Winnie Vitzasky was representing IFLA. At the IFAP Council Meeting in Paris in April 2008 there will be discussions on the IFAP Draft Strategic Plan 2008-2009 where libraries have got a visible role in implementing the goals of IFAP.

WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society <http://www.ifla.org/III/wsis/wsis-rm.html>) goes together with IFAP. IFAP is the way UNESCO puts into practice its C3 Action line responsibilities. That is why IFAP is very important to IFLA as IFLA carries the responsibility of Libraries and Archives in the WSIS Action Line C3.

NATIONAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS MEETING IN QUEBEC

MLAS SC discussed proposals for the programme of the National Library Association Members' Meeting in Quebec. Keep a look out for the agenda and timing of this meeting. Reminders will be on the MLAS e-list.

Advocacy Now Bearing Fruit in Pacific

In November 2006 through a grant from IFLA ALP, a two-day workshop on Advocacy was presented at the Pacific Island Archives and Library Association (PIALA) in Palau. Presenters included Arlene Cohen (PIALA), Keith Michael Fiels, and Michael Dowling (ALA).

At the 2007 PIALA Conference in Tinian last November many countries reported positive results already from their advocacy efforts.

The Palau Association of Librarians' (PAL) key message was 'Parents and Librarians: Partners in Learning'. PAL put on a Summer Reading Program alongside a Ministry of Education reading program, extending the reach to all students from grades 1 through 8. The Ministry has also agreed to give librarians time off to attend training session. PAL is planning for Library Week 2008 with the theme *Mongui e montmtab e mouchias: Read, learn, connect @your library*.

On Kosrae, the librarians focused on 'Library Funding' and the 'Importance of the Library.' The librarians' efforts succeeded in getting an additional \$10,000 from the Office of the Governor to purchase metal shelves and supplies. The librarians used radio and flyers to promote programs in the Summer and have started collecting data to see if the efforts drew people to the programs.

The Guam Library Association worked to get news on their activities posted in the Guam Pacific Daily News in a feature called 'On the Fridge'. A bookmark Campaign was instituted, which included a contest for kids to create the bookmark which was then created and distributed to school libraries.

Michael Dowling
International Relations - ALA
mdowling@ala.org

IFLA's New Professionals Discussion Group: Durban programme - report By Loida Garcia-Febo

New Librarians are an explosive, active and dynamic group. The NPDG held a successful program with over 350 people listening to a panel of international speakers discussing "Developing Library Professionals." The highlight of the program: The attendees were in for challenge when Tracie Hall invited them to blow up the reference desk in order to rethink the ways in which libraries work.

Tracie Hall, Assistant Dean of the Dominican University discussed *Diversity Counts* a demographic report about the professionals in the USA, challenges for new librarians and ways of actively work with senior library decision-makers to promote a more diverse work environment. Ujala Satgoor, Director of a library at the University of Pretoria discussed ways of becoming a leader in our field and how to develop needed skills. Andrew Cranfield, Director of EBLIDA presented ways for new professionals to better understand the role of administrators. Veronda Pitchford, Outreach director for the Urban Libraries Council (US) shared ways of developing library skills through job exchanges.

The NPDG was established in August of 2004 at IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The group seeks to broaden the involvement of recently qualified professionals in IFLA, its core values and professional priorities. Currently, more than 400 people from around the globe have joined the NPDG list-serve. Within IFLA, the NPDG is hosted by the Management of Library Associations Section. Currently, NPDG convenors are Loida Garcia-Febo (US/PR), Joanna Ball (UK), and Andrew Cranfield (DK/UK). The group has presented successful sessions at IFLA Congresses in Buenos Aires, Oslo, Seoul, and Durban.

Currently, the NPDG plans its program for the IFLA conference in Quebec and possible collaborations with other IFLA units for upcoming conferences. The NPDG needs more co-convenors to continue shape and lead the group. To that effect a meeting with interested new librarians was held in Durban to meet possible new convenors and share ideas.

Loida Garcia-Febo manages Special Services for Queens Library in New York. She is a co-convenor of IFLA/NPDG and a member of FAIFE.

MLAS Quebec 2008 Programme

Session Theme: LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND ADVOCACY FOR LIBRARIES : BEST PRACTICES IN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

This programme is a collaboration between the Management of Library Association Section (MLAS), the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CPDWL) and the Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP).

The World Library & Information Congress/ IFLA General Conference takes place in Québec, Canada, August 10-15, 2008. The overall conference theme is "Libraries without borders: Navigating towards global understanding".

The MLAS session will consist of :

Part 1: presentations and,
Part 2: interactive discussion focused on Library Association Management techniques and principles like leadership skills and advocacy for libraries.

The programme is envisioned as having presentations in the morning with invited speakers allocated 20 minutes presentation time after which there will be 10 minutes of discussion. The afternoon session will take the form of interactive round-table sessions in the afternoon devoted to discussion of problems and solutions. LIS educators and practitioners are invited to submit proposals for presentations and roundtable sessions that provide practical information which will enhance the ability of participants to become successful Library Association Managers and Leaders. We plan to present best practices from each of the three IFLA regions of Africa, Latin America-Caribbean and Asia-Oceania where ALP has supported successful projects or actions.

Contacts for the programme:
Sinikka Sipila, MLAS Section
E-mail: sinikka.sipila@fla.fi and
Sylvia Piggott, CPDWL Section
E-mail: spiggott@sympatico.ca

The abstracts will be reviewed by members of MLAS and CPDWL standing committees and by the ALP Office and the Regional Offices. Successful applicants have been notified. Full papers will be due on 1 May 2008 to allow time for review of papers and translations. Papers should not be longer than 20 pages. A maximum of 20 minutes will be allowed for a presentation or summary of the paper during the Sections program in the Conference.

IFLA MLAS**Standing Committee
Details**

Chair : Sinikka Sipila
sinikka.sipila@fla.fi

Secretary & Chair of the
GLAD Committee:
Keith Michael Fiels
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Treasurer : [New]
Tore Andersen
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and
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Other Standing Committee
Member Details are on the
Website

We're on the Web!
See us at:
[http://www.ifla.org/VII/
s40/index.htm](http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/index.htm)

Silvia Stasselova has invited the next MLAS SC Mid-Year Meeting to Bratislava in February 2009. You are all invited as observers to Bratislava!
Here you find links to

Bratislava - The Official Web Site
<http://visit.bratislava.sk/en/>

Slovak National Tourism Portal
(including information on Bratislava)
<http://www.slovakia.travel/>

We have updated the MLAS website
<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/index.htm> with many documents that were missing.

The Annual Reports 2006 and 2007, Minutes from Granada February 2008 and the MLAS Strategic Plan 2008-2009 are still in production and will be added to the website as soon as they are completed.

How do I join the MLAS e-list ?? ...

Just contact Arlene Cohen directly at arlenegcohen@gmail.com and request to be joined up to the MLAS e-list.

Send your message to ifla-mlas@lists.sla.org - where members of the list can send messages.



Claudia Lux – IFLA
President

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHECAIRES ET DES BIBLIOTHEQUES
INTERNATIONALER VERBAND DER BIBLIOTHEKARISCHEN VEREINE UND INSTITUTIONEN
FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE ASOCIACIONES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS Y BIBLIOTECAS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ БИБЛИОТЕЧНЫХ АССОЦИАЦИЙ И УЧРЕЖДЕНИЙ

**10-14 August 2008, Quebec, Canada**

World Library and Information Congress
Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section with
Management of Library Associations Section
Theme: LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND ADVOCACY FOR LIBRARIES : BEST PRACTICES IN
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

Please keep up to date with Conference programme news by monitoring the website at
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/>

