

# IFLA ROUNDTABLE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee  
Saturday, August 18, 2001 and Friday, August 24, 2001  
Hynes Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome

Chair Christina Stenberg (Swedish Library Association) welcomed those present to the meeting. She announced a second informal meeting scheduled for August 24, 2001.

Executive Board members present were:

- Norma Amenu-Kpodo (Commonwealth Library Association)
- \*\* Tore Kr. Andersen (Norwegian Library Association)
- Susan Brown (The Library Association UK)
- Arlene Cohen (Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives, Guam), Secretary
- \* Carla J. Funk (Medical Library Association, USA)
- Briand Gerard (Association des Bibliothécaires Français)
- William R. Gordon (American Library Association)
- \* Marian Koren (Vereniging NBLC/Dutch Public Library Association)
- \* Margaret Law (Canadian Library Association)
- Boris Marshak (Association ELNIT)
- Jennefer Nicholson (Australian Library and Information Association)
- \* Roger Parent (American Association of Law Libraries)
- Jan-Ewout van der Putten (NBLC Association of Dutch Public Libraries)
- \* Kay Raseroka (Botswana Library Association)
- Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad (Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia)
- \* Roberta Shaffer (Special Libraries Association, USA)
- Winnie Vitzansky (The Danish Library Association)
- \* Duane Webster (Association of Research Libraries, USA), IFLA Information Coordinator
- \*\* Vladimir Zaitsev (Russian Library Association)

The following guests attended:

- \* Adela d'Alos-Moner (Library Association of Catalunya, Spain)
- Grace Hiris Birney (Papua New Guinea Library Association)
- \* Jarmila Burgetova (Assoc. of Library and Info. Professionals of the Czech Republic)
- \*\* Mogens Damm (Danish Library Association)
- \* Bernard Dione (Assoc. Senegalaise des Bibliothécaires, Archivistes et Documentalistes)
- \* Maurice Freedman (American Library Association)
- Friedrich Geisselmann (German Library Association)
- \*\* Kalpana Dasgupta (Indian Library Association)
- \* Kari Gulbraar (Norwegian Library Association)
- \* Haffy Haffajee (Library and Information Association of South Africa/LIASA)

- \* Katalin Haraszti (Association of Hungarian Librarians)
- \* Marian Koren (Netherlands Public Library Association)
- \* Silvija Linina (Library Association of Latvia)
- \* Cheryl Morales (American Samoa Library Association)
- \* Muzhgan Nazarova (Azerbaijani Library Development Association)
- Cecile Panzer (Israel Association of Special Libraries and Documentation Centers)
- \* Siti Sumaizan Ramli (Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia)
- Donna Scheeder (Special Libraries Association, USA)
- Maya Shaparneva (Russian Library Association)
- Sabine Stummeyer (Berufsverband Information Bibliothek, Germany)
- \* Marjory Sliney (Library Association of Ireland)
- \* Thordis T. Thorarinsdottir (Icelandic Library and Information Science Association)
- Hope Tillman (Special Libraries Association, USA)
- \* Gwenda Thomas (Library and Information Association of South Africa/LIASA)
- \* Ellen Tise (Library and Information Association of South Africa/LIASA)
- Ekaterina M. Zaitseva (Association ELNIT)
  
- \* attended only formal session (August 18, 2001)
- \*\* attended only informal session (August 24, 2001)

## **2. Approval of the Agenda.**

The Chair noted that it was the time to elect officers for the coming two years and this was added to the agenda. Other items added were election of officers of Division 6 and a discussion of possible directions of the IFLA Journal, if there is time. Agenda approved as changed.

## **3. Election of RTMLA Officers**

Bill Gordon suggested that Christina Stenberg continue as the Chair and the group unanimously agreed. Cecile Panzer suggested Arlene Cohen also continue as Secretary and she was unanimously supported as well. Roger Parent agreed to continue as Treasurer.

## **4. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Spencer Lilley (Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa)
- Vicky Whitmell (Canadian Library Association)
- Jennifer Joseph (Library Association of Trinidad and Tobago)

## **5. Approval of Minutes, 40<sup>th</sup> RTMLA Executive Committee Meeting, Jerusalem, Israel**

The minutes were approved as presented.

## **6. RTMLA Annual Report, January 2000 - December 2000.**

The Secretary asked that items to be included in the RTMLA Annual Report be sent to her by

November 1, 2001.

## **7. RTMLA Medium Term Program, Action Plan and Related Activities**

The Chair announced an IFLA sponsored meeting of National Association members on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2001 from 9:00 - 10:30 (Session 155) and encouraged everyone to attend. Items proposed for discussion include association membership fees, future of the format of the general IFLA conference, review of IFLA's Core Activities and the G8 Digital Divide initiative.

Goals and mission of RTMLA - The Chair announced that the Professional Board recently decided that the 4-year cycle of the *Medium Term Program* should be replaced by a *Strategic Plan* based on a 2-year cycle. This document will incorporate our action plan for the coming two years from 2001-2003. All strategic plans are due on October 1, 2001. The Chair asked for input from the group during the conference.

The Chair welcomed Maurice J. Freedman, the American Library Association 2001-2001 President-elect who asked to speak on the issue of how the concerns of salaried vs elected officials of library associations can be addressed. He expressed concerns that the elected presidents of library associations do not have a platform in IFLA. After the presentation, several ideas were discussed to address his issues including 1) starting a RTMLA listserv, 2) having a workshop at next year's IFLA Conference in Glasgow on how to develop short and long term strategic plans for library associations and 3) post the strategic and action plans of any library associations that wish to share them on the IFLA RTMLA WWW site. Implementation of these activities were discussed later in the meeting.

Sharing of international contact agendas of individual library associations - Tore Andersen will put a message on the IFLA listserv asking people to share any formal or informal cooperative agreements between library associations they are aware of.

## **8. Financial Report**

Treasurer Roger Parent passed out the Financial Report. As of July 31, 2001, we have a balance of US \$13,821.03 in an interest bearing account. During the period August 1, 2000 through July 31, 2001, the IFLA RTMLA account has earned \$384.00. During this period, one check was processed for \$69.52. The Chair thanked the Treasurer and accepted the Financial Report as presented.

## **9. Information Coordinator's Report**

Information Coordinator Duane Webster reported that IFLANet was in the process of being switched from the National Library of Canada to IFLA Headquarters at The Hague and they were experiencing manpower problems in updating our RTMLA WWW page. Hopefully, it will be updated soon.

Roberta Shaffer from the Special Libraries Association (SLA) generously offered to host an

RTMLA Listserv. The Secretary will work with Hope Tillman, President of SLA to get the listserv up and running.

## 10. Report on IFLA 2001 Boston Programs

**RTMLA Open Session** The Open Session *Library Association Twining* (137) is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, 2001. The Chair reported the speakers for the session are Norma Amenu-Kpodo, Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth Library Association; Louisa Vigo Cepeda, University of Puerto Rico; and William Gordon, Executive Director of the American Library Association.

**RTMLA Workshop 1** The Chair reported that *Twining for Development: A Workshop Were We Discuss Different Models for a Twining Programme between Library Associations* (186) will have three speakers, Kari Gulbraar, Vice-President of the Swedish Library Association; Enoch Chipunsa, President of the Zimbabwe Library Association; and Bo Markusson, Chair of the Special Interest Group of the Swedish Library Association on Africa, Asia and Latin America. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, August 23, 2001 and the Chair expressed concern that it is scheduled at the same time other workshops aimed at people from developing countries are scheduled. She hoped the scheduling conflicts would not impact attendance and there would be a discussion among the panel and workshop participants.

**RTMLA Workshop 2** The Chair reported that the program appears to be incorrect for the joint workshop with Roundtable of Editors of Library Journals. The workshop, *The Free Press: Editorial Independence in Association Magazines* (204) is scheduled for Thursday, August 23, 2001 and the scheduled speakers are Leonard Kniffel, American Library Association's Editor of *American Libraries*; and Eileen Breen, Managing Editor, MCB University Press in the United Kingdom. The problem is Eileen Breen is also scheduled for Session 111 with the same presentation. The Chair will address the problem.

## 11. Report on IFLA 2002 Glasgow Program Planning

The Chair reported there had been some discussion at IFLA HQ about the number of workshops that can be offered in Glasgow. There is the possibility that only one workshop per section and roundtable would be allowed, but there was no definite word.

**Open Session** Marion Korn will be the contact person for the proposed session, *Realizing Visions for the Future: A Radical Change for Library and Information Associations*. Working with Marion to plan the open session are Sabine Stummeyer and Jennifer Nicholson. The session will look at strategies to attract new people into both the profession and our associations. Associations that have worked on creating new images will be urged to bring their promotional materials to share.

**Workshop 1** The Chair reported we received a proposal from Boris Marshak and Ekaterina Zaitseva for a workshop on *Current Issues and Activities of Library Associations in Developing Countries*. The Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania also is interested in having a joint workshop with the RTMLA and it was decided that Kalpana das Gupta from New Delhi, India representing the Asia and Oceania Regional Section will work

with Boris Marshak and Ekaterina Zaitseva to plan this joint workshop.

**Workshop 2** Another workshop, *Strategic Planning for Library Associations*, stemming from Maurice Freedman's earlier presentation was suggested. Ellen Tise agreed to be the contact and will work with Maurice Friedman and William Gordon to plan the workshop.

The issue of funding speakers from developing countries for our workshops and open sessions was again discussed. Although this year, all our speakers were able to attend, this still continues to be a problem. One suggestion was a silent auction to raise money. The Chair will look into this possibility.

## **12. Report on IFLA 2003 Berlin Program Planning**

There was some discussion about planning a satellite meeting for the IFLA 2003 Conference in Berlin. A possible topic being considered is how to market library associations to students and others interested in coming into the profession. One possible person to work with is Christina Tovote from Malom University in Sweden who had done a good deal of work in the area of marketing. The Chair will begin looking at the possibilities and report back at the mid-year meeting.

## **13. Report on the Status of Division 8**

At the first session of Council on August 19, 2001, Adolfo Rodriguez, Chair of Division 8 reported on behalf of the Advisory Group that was convened in Bangkok in 1999. After looking at the findings, the group concluded that "Division 8 should not be dissolved, instead IFLA, the Division, ALP, the Regional Offices and the Sections should work together towards fostering development in the countries comprising the regional groups. Its objective would be to ensure more active participation in IFLA, along with advice and activities aimed at strengthening library and information associations, education and professionalism."

## **14. Report on the History of the RTMLA project.**

Russell Bowden resigned from the project and will refund the money that was provided to him. The Chair suggested that all files be sent to IFLA Headquarters in The Hague for storage.

## **15. Report on RTMLA Publications**

**RTMLA Brochure** The Chair thanked Duane Webster for updating and printing this year's brochure.

**RTMLA Newsletter** The RTMLA did not publish a newsletter this year, but we will have at least one next year.

**Guidelines brochures** The Chair announced the publication of three new brochures based on chapters of the *UNESCO/RTMLA Guidelines for the Management of Professional Associations in the Fields of Archives, Library and Information Work*.

The publications now available are *Guidelines for Governing and Leading Library Associations*, written by Roger Parent; *Guidelines for Library Associations Operations*, written Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad; and *Guidelines for Financial Management of Library Associations*, written by Tore Andersen.

Still to be finished are three more, which hopefully will be done in time for IFLA 2002 in Glasgow. They are on the topics of *Organizational structure* by Cecilia Panzer; *Programs and services* by Leacy O'Brien and *Policies, planning and procedures* by Jennifer Joseph

Carla Funk took responsible for editing and coordinating the publication of the brochures, which will be distributed at our Open Sessions, RTMLA workshops and the IFLA booth during conferences. Carla reported that to date, \$2,000 was spent for the printing of 250 copies of each brochure for this conference. Discussion was held on who would keep the masters and be responsible for printing and distributing the brochures, but no decision was made. A decision will be made after the meeting in Boston.

Plans are for all completed brochures to be put on the RTMLA IFLANET WWW site. Duane Webster will follow up on this. We are also hoping to have the brochures translated into other languages. To date, Myra Torres-Alamo from the University of Puerto Rico has offered to translate them into Spanish and Gerard Briand of the French Library Association. will work on translating them into French.

The Chair announced with delight that all copies of the brochures were distributed during the conference and only wished we had printed more. The Chair expressed her great appreciation to Carla and all the writers for their work on these valuable publications.

## 16. RTMLA Organizational Issues

**Roundtable Status** The Chair reported on a letter from Ross Shimmon dated May 10, 2001 to officers of all IFLA Round Tables and Discussion Groups wherein he discussed the future of IFLA's professional units. In the letter, several options were presented for streamlining the structure of professional units within IFLA, including roundtables becoming sections. An October 1, 2001 deadline was given to provide a firm indication of the options the affected units wish to pursue.

The Chair, the Secretary and Jennefer Nicholson wrote a draft response and presented it to the RTMLA Executive Committee. In the response, we indicated we wished to pursue becoming a section with these recommendations:

“All current members of the RTMLA become members of the section.

The RTMLA Executive Board and officers become the Standing Committee Executive Board and officers until the next election.

To allow continuity and accommodate the IFLA election cycle, at next election those 10 members elected with the highest number of votes be appointed for 4 years and the next

10 be appointed for 2 years with the possibility of reelection for another term.

All funds currently in the treasury transfer to appropriate section account.

A change in section membership options offered to associations in that associations can have cost-free membership in 6 sections instead of 5, with membership in the Section on Library Associations being automatic.”

Bill Gordon moved and Cecila Panzer seconded the motion to approve the letter and the Executive Committee unanimously supported the motion. The Chair will send the letter.

**Funding for RTMLA Participation** The issue of funding people from developing countries to participate in the activities of the RTMLA has been an ongoing problem. Last year, the American Library Association provided support for a speaker and this year, the Swedish Library Association is supporting speakers and our RTMLA Secretary. Norma Amenu-Kpodo suggested only giving partial help and also pay for registration fees. If we become a section, the Chair said that section administrative funds could pay for speakers, although every section also has these problems. Winnie Vitzansky and Jan-Ewout van der Putten offered to work on a proposal to address this issue and present it at the mid-year meeting.

**IFLA Membership Dues** The Executive Committee discussed the need to have associations in developing countries be able to fund their own IFLA membership, without depending on outside sources. IFLA HQ is looking at ways to change the dues structure. Currently, in some sense, the lowest assessed countries are, to a degree, subsidizing membership for those with the highest assessments. The Chair encouraged people to write to IFLA HQ supporting the change in dues structure to allow a more equitable structure.

**17. Soros Open Society Institute Network Library Program (NPL) 2000 Initiative** During this past year, the Chair visited the Soros office in Budapest and had some input in their planning process. To date, there has been no followup.. Anyone interested in working with Soros should contact the RTMLA Chair.

**18. Report on Kenya librarians research project** Jennefer Nichol森 reported that the project, *The Impact of Library Associations in the Development of Education and Training in East Africa*, being done by Ashah Owano and Isabel F. Mulanda, librarians from Kenya has not been completed. She did not think the research had been started and will follow up.

**19. Crimea 2001, 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference** Tore Andersen from the RTMLA and Mogens Damm from the Danish Library Association held a joint RTMLA/FAIFE workshop at the Crimea 2001 Conference in June, 2001 in Sudak, Ukraine. Tore presented a report to the RTMLA and described the conference as a chance to meet librarians from Eastern European countries and to unofficially discuss their library association activities. The workshop was funded in part by Soros, the RTMLA and other sources. After some discussion, the RTMLA decided to hold one workshop annually at the Crimea Conference. The Chair will address funding issues and participants for the next 9<sup>th</sup> Crimea 2002 Conference.

**20. RTMLA Mid-Year meeting** Jan-Ewout van der Putten invited the RTMLA Executive Committee to hold their Mid-year meeting in The Hague with proposed dates of March 1-2, 2002. Bill Gordon moved and Winnie Vitzansky seconded the motion to accept the generous invitation to hold the meeting in The Hague. Motion passed.

**21. Announcements**

Norma Amenu-Kpodo announced the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) meeting planned for May 27 - June 1, 2002 in Jamaica and invited all to attend.

The Chair expressed her appreciation to the Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication to the RTMLA.

The meeting was adjourned on Friday, August 18, 2000 at 12:00 p.m.

Christina Stenberg  
Chair

Arlene Cohen  
Secretary