

MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
SECTION STANDING COMMITTEE
6th Meeting (Mid-term) Zagreb, 16-18 February 2006

Present:

Standing Committee Members: Edita Bacic, Keith Fiels, Carla Funk, Britt-Marie Haggstrom, Jill Martin, Jan-Ewout van der Putten, Tuula Ruhanen, Sinikka Sipila, Sabine Stummeyer, Winnie Vitzansky, Duane Webster.

Observers (some part meeting): Janice Lachance, (SLA), Andrew Cranfield (NPDG) Kelly Moore (IFLA-HQ), Claudia Lux (IFLA President-Elect).

Apologies:, Norma Amenu-Kpodo, Arlene Cohen, Alicia Ocaso.

1 Andrew Cranfield gave a status report on the **New Professionals Discussion Group** and MLAS role in supporting them. Since it's inception in 2003, the NPDG had made good progress with open sessions of up to 80 people in Buenos Aires and Oslo. Journal articles were raising awareness. An e-mail discussion list had been established but was not very active. Andrew did not regard putting resources into the stimulation of this as essential. It was now time to move from discussion to action. A programme was planned for Seoul and the group's future must be decided. There are 4 options:

- Remain a discussion group although time limit within IFLA rules has already expired. This would mean no increase in resource or activity levels, limited meeting time at conferences and no legitimacy;
- Become a section.. This requires GB support and in view of current review of IFLA structure may not be timely. It would bring legitimacy, but might sacrifice flexibility.
- Seek to become a Core Programme, but the wide and non-specific remit of the group mitigates against this
- Become independent of IFLA and secure external funding, not really feasible.

After discussion, Keith reassured Andrew of MLAS' firm commitment to provide a temporary home for the group and, continue to provide direction and support, and that we would include this in our response to the section review paper.

2 The **minutes** of the meetings in Oslo, August 13 & 19, 2005 were approved. Thanks were passed to Arlene for producing these and for her all the invaluable past and continuing work for the section.

3. Carla gave her Financial Report as Treasurer. The situation remained unchanged. The grant from the SLA continued and no funds were therefore being drawn down from IFLA-HQ. An offer was made to Andrew to pay his travelling expenses for this meeting, which was gratefully accepted.

4. Keith reported on the recent **Governing Board** meeting. 8 Task Forces had been established in Oslo to examine various aspects of IFLA's work, but little had as yet happened. A Consultants' Review of Business Processes was being carried out. There is a need for greater investment in ICT to produce greater integration, and to support and centralise advocacy efforts in The Hague. In both cases, donor or reserve funding is needed. Issues around fundraising and disaster relief were discussed. This is of great importance to this section and it was felt that production of *Guidelines for Fundraising* might be useful to Association. Branding was discussed and Barbara Ford is working on a draft document. A section review is being carried out and some sections may merge or disband. A substantive item on a Review of the Statutes is a separate item on this agenda.

5. **Information Issues.** The MLAS list serve continues to prosper and Arlene is happy to continue with this. However we need to develop a Communication Strategy and find a way to revive our newsletter.

6. Report from **IFLA Membership Manager.**

Kelly Moore reported on a number of business issues:

- The budget for the integration of the membership and financial databases was £90K.
- An Advocacy Workshop will be held in March at which representatives of CLM, FAIFE and others will discuss improvements in this important aspect of IFLA's work
- The FAIFE office will be integrated into the Hague in Spring 2007.
- Kelly outlined the changes that will ensure more income for IFLA from the WLIC, Seoul will be a transitional event and new arrangements will begin in Durban. IFLA and Congrex now control the budget.
- The new fee structure does not appear to be putting off higher rate paying members and membership remains stable.
- A new WLIC selection process is being introduced. From the 2009 conference onwards, a region will be selected for each conference. The 2009 conference will be in Southern Europe and cities within that region will be asked to submit expressions of interest. Congrex will then negotiate for best deal and the GB decision announced in Seoul. National Associations will still have a role but it will be a reduced one.

7. Review of the Statutes. Bob McKee's paper for GB on this was discussed at considerable length. Main conclusions were:

- The current structure does not guarantee geographical distribution, and a new model must seek to increase developing country participation;
- The GB at 25 is far too large;
- There is a need to define the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee .
- Elections every year are not financially viable;
- We would be supportive of a model which allowed for Sections and Expert Groups; .
- We support a review of governance;
- IFLA's *Rules of Procedure* need to be revised;
- More time is needed for the process and eventually a postal ballot;
- Keith will present our views to GB.

8. GLAD. Thanks were passed to Michael Dowling for his work on this. Working with Kelly, he is improving the existing database of Library Associations. It was felt the we needed to produce some goals for association development. Participation in Regional Conferences was discussed. Participation in the upcoming SCECSAL conference might provide a model for future workshops

9. Programme for Seoul. The theme will be "Advocacy in Action" and we will attempt to get a geographical spread of papers. A number of possibilities were discussed and the Call for Papers will go out in April.

10. Winnie reported on WSIS. Lobbying had been very successful and many countries had included librarians in their official delegations in Tunis. The documents produced would be of value in attempts to stress value of libraries and information in national planning. Alex Byrne will be leading IFLA's involvement in this area. It is likely that a document will be produced adding specific LIS strategies to the WSIS action lines.

11. Claudia Lux as President-Elect of IFLA gave a presentation to the committee, and reviewed with us many of the items that we had previously discussed. It was her view that NPDG would not work best as a Section, but that it was a important engine for change. In discussing the IFLA governance structure, the possibility of disbanding or merging Divisions was explored.

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MLAS Secretary
2005-2007
Jill Martin

