

**67<sup>th</sup> IFLA Council and General Conference**  
**Section V: Section of Social Science Libraries**  
**Boston**  
**18 August 2001**

**Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting**

**Members Present:** Jakob Andersen, Kari Gulbraar, Hans-Christoph Hobohm, Barbara Kemp, Agnetta Olsson, Jean Porter, Myoung C. Wilson (Chair)

**Members Absent:** Yvonne Abitbol-Touboul, Mireille Fomenko, Vera Z. Grigorieva, Margaret Robb

**Visitors Present:** Jean-Philippe Accart, Dahrl Moore, David E. Renscher, Paul F. Smart,  
Mel Thatcher

**Treasurer's Report:** Hans-Christoph Hobohm, Section V Secretary/Treasure, reported there is approximately \$600.00 (US) in our account, but he is expecting some movement due to workshop expenses.

**Nominations and Elections (2001-2003):** The following officers were elected and will take over at the end of the 67<sup>th</sup> Council and General Conference: Jakob Andersen – Chair; Hans-Christoph Hobohm – Treasurer; Barbara Kemp – Secretary. Ms. Kemp will also continue as Information Coordinator and Newsletter Editor.

**Activities in Boston:** Myoung Wilson reviewed Section activities in Boston, noting that they were also published in the *Newsletter* and had been sent out on the Section listserv.

The Section's discussion groups and their activities were reviewed. It was noted that we must request that the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group activities not be scheduled at the same time as the Sections major meetings. Mel Thatcher, Convener of this discussion group summarized its plans for this meeting. He noted there is a problem with a speaker who is coming in only to speak at the group's meeting being asked to pay a registration fee. Dr. Hobohm suggested contacting the Coordinator of Professional Activities about this issue. Mr. Paul Smart, one of our visitors, announced that he has arranged visits to both the Massachusetts State Historical Library and the New England Historical and Genealogical Society Library. Mr. Thatcher then raised the issue of the discussion group moving to section status, perhaps even by next year's conference in Glasgow. Dr. Hobohm suggested the topic be placed on the Coordinating Board's Friday agenda.

Dr. Hobohm next discussed the Knowledge Management Discussion Group (formerly the Corporate and For-Profit Libraries Discussion Group). This revised group will be in effect for two years and will be convened by Dr. Michael Koenig and Jean-Philippe Accart. Dr. Hobohm also noted that there is some discussion of developing closer ties for this discussion group with FID (Fédération Internationale d'Information et Documentation).

Jean Porter reviewed plans for the Section workshop to be held in the Wong Auditorium at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She noted that Catherine Friedman, Head of MIT's Dewey Library (for the social sciences) has provided a great deal of assistance in making the local arrangements, including possibly paying for the auditorium rental. Ms. Porter also said that while there are no general tours of the Dewey Library, visitors are welcome to drop in and look around. Ms. Wilson said she will ask the Reference Section to announce the workshop at their meetings. Mr. Andersen stated that asking for pre-registration for off-site meetings with larger venues is not helpful, since those who do register often do not show up and those who would like to come but have not registered are discouraged from attending. It was suggested that we place an announcement in *IFLA Express* that pre-registration is not necessary for the workshop. Dr. Hobohm suggested that we could also arrange to travel together to the MIT campus and have lunch there, opening this activity to anyone interested in joining us. Ms. Porter will post a sign at the meeting point and Ms. Kemp will place announcements in *IFLA Express*.

Dr. Hobohm said that the Section hour to staff the IFLA booth will be from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 22 August. Ms. Wilson and Ms. Kemp volunteered to staff the booth. We will also place copies of the revised brochure, *INSPEL*, and the IFLA Survey of National Libraries of Education in the booth.

**Strategic Planning, 2001-2003:** Dr. Hobohm said that we need to develop a Mission Statement and Goals and Objectives for 2001-2003, as well as an action plan for 2001-2002. Two goals suggested are to increase Section membership and Standing Committee membership. It was noted that we can have up to 20 members on the Standing Committee. Ms. Wilson suggested that we make an effort to get representation from those areas of the world not currently on the Standing Committee, including Africa, Asia, Central and South America and southern Europe. She also suggested that planners think ahead to appoint representatives from future conference sites as an aid to local arrangement planning. Dr. Hobohm suggested trying again to involve personnel from major social science libraries in the world. Basically we need to look at a balance of disciplines and geography. A barrier to all involvement is often the issue of financing participation. Kari Gulbraar suggested looking at the possibility of library twinning programs to aid in this area.

Dr. Hobohm reminded the committee that we also must think about our mission. One suggestion is to promote social science librarianship, particularly in developing countries. He noted that this will mesh well with the fact that IFLA's new President-Elect is from

Africa. A working group composed of Ms. Wilson, Dr. Hobohm, Mr. Andersen and Ms. Kemp will meet to develop a draft of the required documents.

**Glasgow Conference, 2002:** Ms. Wilson said that while the general theme is “Explore Yesterday, Discover Tomorrow,” details are still somewhat amorphous. One suggestion is to involve someone from the Electronic Society for the Social Sciences at St. Andrew’s University. Agneta Olsson mentioned two projects at Göteborg University, one of which is putting East Indian documents on the World Wide Web. Dr. Hobohm said that the idea of the knowledge society might be connected with UNESCO’s working unit on technology. Mr. Thatcher mentioned that if we want to get greater participation from Asia, he has connections with many librarians in China. In response to a question, Ms. Wilson said it was too late to develop an official pre-conference, although Margaret Robb from Oxford University has indicated that she would be happy to host something at her institution. At the next Standing Committee meeting, we should decide if we plan to host a workshop in Glasgow.

**Berlin Conference, 2003:** Dr. Hobohm is on the National Organizing Committee for Professional Activities at this conference. He reviewed some information about the conference. The theme of the conference is Access-Point Library or Library as a Portal. The tentative focus for Section V will be political science and sociology. This will be a vibrant conference for the Section since there are many social science libraries in Berlin.

**Other Business:** Mr. Andersen reported on the IFLA Survey of National Libraries of Education Project. There is a new, clean, simple Web site available for easy reporting and updating.

Dr. Hobohm reported that he is working with UNESCO to research the information use of social scientists. He noted this might ultimately involve the Section.

Mr. Andersen said he has a colleague currently studying educational researchers' use of the Web.