

68th IFLA Council and General Conference
Social Science Libraries Section
Glasgow, Scotland
17 August 2002

Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting

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

Members Absent: Mireille Fomenko, Vera Grigorieva, Eeva-Liisa Lehtonen, Yvonne Abitbol-Touboul, Chirawan Bhakdibutr,

Visitors Present: Irene Wormell, Karen Muller, Donna McCool, Johanna Gehring, Kathrin Gitmans, Marjatta Kahima, Hellevi Yrjola,

Jakob Andersen, Chair of the section, called the meeting to order at 11:40. He first noted that IFLA has slightly changed the names of sections by reversing the order of words. From now on, Section V will be called "Social Science Libraries Section."

The agenda was amended to add "Information from the Coordinating Board."

The minutes of the Boston meetings were approved as previously distributed.

Mr. Andersen reported that the Section's Annual Report was expanded from the first page of the *Newsletter*. He noted that the section on fees for national association must be corrected since fees are set for each country. There is still inequity between rich and poor countries, but the disparity is not quite as great as previously thought.

The e-mail membership drive has not succeeded as hoped. In fact there is a net loss of 3 members. Mr. Andersen feels that sending letters by regular post might be more effective.

Dr. Hans-Christoph Hobohm next presented the Treasurer's Report. There has been neither a loss nor a gain since nothing was spent last year. Printing and distribution of this year's *Newsletter* was subsidized by Denmark's National Library of Education and the University of Houston. At the beginning of the year the account held 640 euros. However, the Section has paid one-day fees for three speakers at this conference, which will probably zero out the account.

Mr. Andersen next reported on information presented at the Coordinating Board meeting that he attended. He noted that according to IFLA regulations, a Standing Committee may have no more than five Corresponding Members, yet Section V has had more than that. Therefore, he has removed the names of those corresponding members who have not responded to contact.

In response to a question, Dr. Hobohm said that conference papers are not automatically published in *INSPEL*. The IFLA Journal technically has the rights of first refusal. Also there is a question of the type of presentation made at the conference. Dr. Hobohm also noted that he is preparing a knowledge management reader for publication by Sauer and is planning to include some of the presentations from both Boston and Glasgow in that book.

Activities in Glasgow

The open session will be held 12:00 – 14:30 and will showcase a broad range of social science libraries. Myoung Wilson noted that the session has been featured on the first page of *IFLA Express* #1. The Knowledge Management Discussion Group will meet at 8:30 Sunday. There is some concern about attendance at such a scheduled time.

Section V's time scheduled for staffing the IFLA booth is Monday, 19 August, 17:00 – 18:00. We will share that time with Section 28, Health and Biosciences Libraries. Mr. Andersen noted that sections may display only one copy of a section brochure, so we will distribute more at the open session and the K-M Discussion group meeting.

Next Mr. Andersen noted that the brochure has not yet been translated. It also needs to be updated. Ms. Wilson noted that it is a Pagemaker file at Rutgers University in the U.S. She offered to send it to Ms. Kemp, who said that she has no access to Pagemaker. Jean-Philippe Accart was mentioned as a possible translator for a French version, while Margaret Robb indicated she might be able to find a translator for Russian. It is possible that printing costs could be distributed among the Standing Committee members' institutions. Ms. Robb asked if it might be possible to offer a token honorarium (£20) to translators. Dr. Hobohm said he would need an invoice. Mr. Andersen said we must remember that we still will need money to pay one-day registrations for speakers.

Karen Muller spoke briefly about the American Library Association's (ALA) experience in defining who gets support to attend conferences. After some discussion, Dr. Hobohm said that IFLA is talking about this issue for the future. It was resolved that the Section must strongly support a policy of offering monetary support to bring in non-IFLA and non-librarians as speakers to better inform our work.

Ms. Wilson also proposed that we offer a token honorarium to translators if they cannot or will not do the work for free. She indicated that she would try to get brochures printed at her institution. Ms. Kemp noted that the cost of a high quality product can be very expensive and that each language would probably have the same initial set-up costs. With an annual budget of only 660 euros, funding printing would be very difficult. Committee members were encouraged to think of other funding opportunities. Ms. Wilson mentioned that she might be able to talk with some vendors about the possibility of providing some support.

Section Projects

- a) Dr. Hobohm said that *INSPEL* is really a Division II publication. Although it only costs 40 euros per year, there are too few subscribers. It was suggested that a subscription form might be included in the *Newsletter*.
- b) Mr. Andersen said that the IFLA Survey of National Libraries of Education has only added one entry (Mexico). He has contacted Europa Publications about obtaining one-week access to the electronic *World of Learning*, but as yet had received no response. He will check to see if Europa is at the conference; if so, he will try to talk to them here.
- c) Dr. Hobohm presented an idea for another project. He suggested replicating the former study done with UNESCO on the information use and behavior of social scientists. He would like to have a joint project with UNESCO and ICSSD this time. A comparison of data 30 years apart would be both interesting and helpful. Ms. Wilson suggested using one or more library school students to search for and collect similar studies done in various social science disciplines as a preliminary step. This small project would be background for a larger study. The Section will request money to pay student(s) for

the project. Ms. Wilson and Ms. Robb agreed to supervise the student(s). Dr. Hobohm will talk with people to see if there would be interest in publishing the results.

- d) The question of the Knowledge Management Discussion Group moving beyond discussion group status was raised. Mr. Andersen said that a new section has to be approved by the Governing Board and that there is some concern about the growing number of sections in IFLA. In addition there is some discussion about reorganization of the annual conference, with some effort to begin “discipline” programming. Dr. Hobohm added that there is interest in making the conference “leaner.” There is a feeling that there are too many sessions being held now. Discussion groups exist for two years, and the time for Knowledge Management will be up in Berlin. The group will need to decide then what they want to do. If they want section status, it must first be requested through the Coordinating Board, then the Governing Board. They will need a short statement of why such status should be granted, who (both institutions and individuals) can be a member, who should be on the Standing Committee, etc. He also noted that IFLA members get two sections free. After that sections cost 45 euros each. Another issue raised was id a new section would attract new members to IFLA or would it be competition with SLA in the U.S. Dr. Wormell noted that she is tired of discussion and would like to learn new things.
- e) Discussion of the Strategic Plan was tabled until the Friday meeting.

Ms. Wilson asked about plans for the Berlin conference. The theme is “Access Point Library,” and we plan to capitalize on Germany’s rich history in the study of sociology and political science. Several potential speakers were mentioned. Dr. Hobohm reminded everyone that it is not too soon to also begin thinking about plans for Buenos Aires.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:50.