

IFLA Section on Science and Technology Libraries Standing Committee

Minutes of meetings held at the 67th IFLA general Conference, Boston

SC I Saturday, 18 August 2001, 8:30-11:20, Room 305, Hynes Convention Center

SC II Friday, 24 August 2001, 10:15-12:15, Room 308, Hynes Convention Center

Attendees

Nancy Anderson, USA
Donna McCool, USA (SC I)
Julia Gelfand, USA
Rafayel Harutyunyan, Armenia
Olga Lavrik, Russia
Ingar Lomhein, Norway
Marianne Nordlander, Sweden
Irma Pasanen, Finland
Jean Poland, USA
Philippe Raccah, France
Tovah Reis, USA (SC II)
Raymond Schwartz, USA
Helga Schwarz, Germany
Werner Stephan, Germany (SC II)
Mette Stockmarr (Secretary pro tem), Denmark
Patricia Yocum (Chair), USA
Andrei Zemskov, Russia

Observers

Nahid Saatara, Iran
Anne-Mette Vibe, Norway (SC I)

SC I Saturday, 18 August 2001, 8:30-11:20, Room 305, Hynes Convention Center

1. Welcome and introduction

Patricia Yocum welcomed those attending and members and observers introduced themselves.

2. Appointment of a Secretary pro tem

Patricia Yocum expressed her warm thanks to David Price, UK, the outgoing Secretary. David Price had to retire as Secretary before this IFLA Conference so Patricia Yocum proposed Mette Stockmarr to be Secretary pro tem. This was accepted.

3. Adoption of agenda

The prepared agenda was accepted.

4. Approval of 2000 minutes

The minutes of SC meetings in Jerusalem had been distributed electronically and paper copies were available in Boston. The minutes were approved.

5. Approval of 1999-2000 Annual Report

This is pending. Patricia Yocum will ensure that one is written for the archives.

6. Approval of financial statement

The Financial Report for October 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001 and the Proposed Administrative Budget 2001 were presented by Patricia Yocum and approved. The prospective balance in administrative funds September 30, 2001 is \$ 636.64 [subsequently revised to \$336.]

7. Election of Section officers 2001 – 2003

Philippe Raccach nominated Julia Gelfand as the new Chair. Julia Gelfand was elected. Ingar Lomheim nominated Irma Pasanen as the new Secretary. Irma Pasanen was elected.

8. Report from the Coordinating Board of Division II, Special Libraries

The Chair, Hans-Christoph Hobohm, reported from Professional Board meetings and discussions and on the work in the CB.

- Professional Board was concerned with the quality of the conferences, which PB wanted to improve. The discussion centered around how this can be achieved and PB in this stage discussed several solutions, i.e. more centralized steering of papers (never more 100 papers about digitalization!); Maybe changed structure of the conferences: every second year a general conference, every second year a more specialized conference etc. Discussions will continue.
- Medium Term Programme will become a two year Strategic Plan with an Action Plan devised each year.
- The Chair and the Secretary of the CB of Division II are outgoing. New officers have to be elected in Boston.
- The Chair reported from a very successful Brighton Conference last year (SLA's Global 2000 Conference, Brighton, UK, 16-19 October 2000)
- INSPEL is the division's main activity; Chair asked the sections in the division to deliver more articles to the editor and invited preparation of thematic issues prepared by a Division II section.
- The financial situation in the division is good.

9. Planning reports on Section programs in Boston

- Open Session
“Speaking Differently: Transitions in Scientific Communication”
Tuesday, 21 August 2001, 15:30-18:00, room 304 Hynes Convention Center.
Julia Gelfand reported on the three speakers to the section: An artist “she is a fascinating speaker”, a speaker talking about e-books and a computer scientist. All of them are external to IFLA.

Julia Gelfand pointed out two problems:

1. The three speakers will not prepare papers, so there will be no papers for the session – and probably none after. This problem is not that big this year, but for future conferences it is a problem. External speakers often will deliver a technology-based presentation and not a printed paper. This year we might be able to ask them for notes, links to their web sites etc.

2. External speakers are supposed to pay for one day admission to the conference. For Boston this fee is \$150 per speaker. Patricia Yocum has discussed this with IFLA and had a discount for one speaker, but the section will need to pay for the two others. In the future this problem should be solved before the program arrangements are finalized. IFLA is urged to find a more appropriate way to host external speakers who enrich our knowledge and would not otherwise attend the conference.
- Study Tour to Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries
Thursday 23 August 2001, 8:40-12:00.
Julia Gelfand reported that planning is complete and the Library staff is expecting us. Registration with Julia in advance remains open.
10. Planning Section programs for 18-24 Glasgow August 2002
Theme: “Libraries for life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery”
- Open Session.
The Chair stated that it would be best if those arranging programs were identified at least two years in advance. However Julia Gelfand is excused from planning the open session next year because she will now serve the Section as Chair. Ray Schwartz, Philippe Raccah and Mette Stockmarr volunteered to plan the session for Glasgow.
 - Study Tour.
David Price is excused from planning the study tour. Marianne Nordlander volunteered to plan the tour.
11. Planning Section Programs for Berlin 1-9 August 2003
Theme: “Access Point Library: Media – Information – Culture”
- Open Session
The Chair invited members continuing to consider volunteering to plan this session.
- Study Tour
There are many possibilities for tours in Berlin. Helga Schwarz, whose term on the Committee concludes in Boston, is available as a resource person. One or two committee members are needed to lead the planning.
- Concerning Buenos Aires 2004, ALP may help with some contacts.
12. Publications
- There was no Section Newsletter this year, but the new Secretary will try prepare an issue for release in late September.
 - The Section Listserv is still in Oxford. The IFLA-web should be the right place in the future, but for now we have to wait. Listserv will be discussed again next year.
 - Section brochure – reprint or revision? A small Task Force will look at the brochure. Copies in sufficient quantity are available for the current year.
 - IFLA-net. The National Library of Canada is excused from maintaining IFLA-net. IFLA HQ is working intensely to establish the IFLA-net in The Hague.

- INSPEL (Official journal of Division II Special Libraries). The Editor, Hans-Christoph Hobohm continues as editor although he is outgoing Chair of Division II and outgoing Secretary of the Section for Social Science Libraries. He invites members of the sections in Division II to send articles to INSPEL.

13. Bi-annual revision of the Medium Term Programme

Medium Term Programme will now become a two year Strategic Plan with a specific Action Plan prepared each year. It was agreed that a small group consisting of Julia Gelfand, Irma Pasanen and Patricia Yocum will prepare a draft Strategic Plan and draft Action Plan to be discussed at the SC II meeting Friday.

The Chair reported that the Section of Sci-Tech Libraries has 110 members. This number is a net decrease of 11 since last the IFLA conference. Some members have dropped their memberships while the Section welcomed others as new members. In an attempt to better understand the membership of the Section the Chair has made a database of current members. Jean Poland volunteered to continue the work.

SC II Friday 24 August 2001, 10:15 – 12:15, Room 308, Hynes Convention Center

The Chair welcomed the two new members, Tovah Reis and Werner Stephen.

Update on item 10

- Open Session, Glasgow

Ray Schwartz reported from the small group (Ray Schwartz, Philippe Raccal, Mette Stockmarr) about possible themes. The group discussed ideas and agreed, by the beginning of November, to send the new Chair, Julia Gelfand, a draft proposal with sub themes and suggestions for speakers. It was agreed that speakers speaking other official languages than English should prepare at least handouts in English.

- Study Tour, Glasgow

Marianne Nordlander will contact the Heriot-Watt Library in Edinburgh and arrange the Study Tour. She will discuss the practical problems with the national organizing committee.

Update on item 11.

- Open Session, Berlin

The Section for Information Technology – and maybe the Section for Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries – are interested in presenting a joint session with Sci-Tech. Jean Poland is responsible for this, co-responsible is Werner Stephan.

Update on item 13.

The Chair distributed a draft Strategic Plan. With minor corrections all members approved it.

15. Projects

- *Needs Assessment of Sci-Tech Libraries in Less-Developed and Developing Countries* (Patricia Yocum)

The Chair reported about small progress in the project. \$ 1,470 comes from the PB to the project. The Chair will do a pilot study, at first from the Sections own members; approx. 30 – 40 of our members is within the category. Donna McCool and Tovah Reis volunteered to work with Patricia Yocum in this matter.

- Call for proposals

A proposal from Andrej Zemskov within the same theme was discussed. It was agreed that Patricia Yocum will ask libraries to identify their needs as part of the needs assessment inquiry.

17. Follow-up reports on section programs in Boston

- Sci-Tech Open Session Tuesday 21 August 2001, 15:30 – 18:00 “*Speaking differently: transitions in scientific communication*”. (Julia Gelfand)

More than 80 people attended the session, which was a success. The three speakers were very inspiring and Julia Gelfand was thanked for having organized the program. Seventeen evaluation forms have been collected but have not yet been studied.

- Sci-Tech Study Tour Thursday 23 August 2001 to MIT, Cambridge (Julia Gelfand)

The Study Tour comprising 37 people went smoothly and the sessions by the head of the Barker Engineering Library, Steve Gass and by Professor Joe Jacobson, MIT Media Lab, were of the very highest standard. Julia Gelfand was thanked for having organized the tour..

The matter concerning the payment for external speakers was discussed again. Patricia Yocum reported that the Section has paid \$300 for the one-day passes for two of the speakers, reducing the projected Section balance at the end of September to \$336. Helga Schwarz stated that there will be no payment for external speakers in Berlin. Julia Gelfand will investigate the question for Glasgow.

18. Reports on activities of related groups

- IATUL (Marianne Nordlander)

Marianne Nordlander reported from a very successful conference in IATUL. She mentioned the next conference in Kansas City, 3 – 7 June 2002. For more information see: www.iatul.org

- Special Libraries Association (Nancy Anderson)

Nancy Anderson reported from SLA and mentioned the web-address as the best way to get information. The web-address is: www.sla.org

- American Library Association (Julia Gelfand)

Julia Gelfand reported from ALA and agreed that the best way to get information about the organization is from the web. The web-address is: www.ala.org

19. Announcements

The deadline for new members to submit brief biographies to the Irma Pasanen, the new Secretary, for inclusion in the newsletter is September 15.

24. Adjournment

Next IFLA Conference will take place in Glasgow, 18 – 24 August 2002.
In 2003 IFLA Conference will take place in Berlin, 1 - 9 August 2003.

The Chair, Patricia Yocum thanked the outgoing members of the Committee: Nancy Anderson (USA), Diane Ebro (USA), Donna McCool USA), and Helga Schwartz (Germany). Julia Gelfand thanked Patricia Yocum, (USA, also outgoing) for her tremendous work as chair of the Section for the past four years.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mette Stockmarr
Secretary pro tem