

IFLA
Section for Public Libraries
Annual Report
August 1999 to December 2000

Scope Statement

The Section of Public Libraries provides an active informational forum for the development and promotion of public libraries that serve the whole community in the context of the information society and ensure free and equal access to information at the local level.

Section of Public Libraries Standing Committee to 2001

Assumpta Bailac Puigdemivol, <i>Spain</i>	Britt Marie Haggstrom, <i>Sweden</i> (Secretary)
Frode Bakken, <i>Norway</i>	Kerstin Hassner, <i>Sweden</i>
Clara Sinay Budnick, <i>Chile</i>	Nerses Hayrapetyan, <i>Armenia</i>
Jarmila Burgetova, <i>Czech Republic</i>	Bernard Margolis, <i>USA</i>
Georgeta Clinca, <i>Romania</i>	Robert Pestell, <i>Australia</i>
Barbara Clubb, <i>Canada</i> (Chair)	Florence Poncé, <i>France</i>
Nic Diament, <i>France</i>	Mary Sherman, <i>USA</i>
Vladimir Firsov, <i>Russia</i>	Borge Sondergard, <i>Sweden</i> (Newsletter and Information Coordinator)
Philip Gill, <i>UK</i>	Reinhard Stridde, <i>Germany</i>
Ilona Glashoff, <i>Germany</i>	
Tuula Haavisto, <i>Finland</i>	

Membership of section as of August 2000: 298

Chair:

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Secretary:

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Mid-Term Programme Goals: 1998-2001

1. To promote equal access for all to information at a local level and ensure public libraries are part of the national library network of their countries.
2. To promote and make recommendations on the role of the public library in supporting life long learning and computer literacy among public library users.
3. To promote the effective provision of information technology and multimedia in public libraries based on different levels of development.
4. To promote the development of public library standards, the use of quality management and performance measures in public libraries and encourage research into their funding, models and collection and dissemination of comparative public library statistics.
5. To support action to combat illiteracy through the use of public libraries in conjunction with other appropriate bodies within and without IFLA.
6. To update the brochure about the section of Public Libraries.
7. To arrange a seminar on public library services and policy, particularly in developing countries.
8. To secure sponsorship for section activity.
9. To develop new medium term program for 2002-2005.

Standing Committee Meetings

1999	Bangkok, August 21 and August 27
2000	Paris, March 23 and 24
2000	Jerusalem, August 12 and 18
2001	Prague February 22-24 (upcoming)

Projects related to Mid-Term Programme

1. Development of Section website: <www.ifla.org/VII/s8/spl.htm>
Project leader: Borge Sondergard, Denmark
2. Public Libraries: Guidelines for Development
Project leader: Philip Gill, UK
3. Public Libraries and Life Long Learning research
Project Leader: Britt Marie Häggström
4. Use of Information Technology in Public Libraries research
Project Leader: Borge Sondergard
5. UNET-Unesco Model Public Library Project: Evaluation
Project Leader: Kerstin Hassner

6. Survey of National Information Policies
Project Leader: Hellen Niegaard
7. IFLA Regional Conferences on Public Library Development
Africa: Scheduled for 2001
8. Public Libraries and Telecentres
Project Leader: Barbara Clubb
9. Public Library Legislation on the Section's website
Project Leader: Borge Sondergard

Publications

Newsletter

Issue no. 23 January 2001

Issue no. 22 March 2000

Issue no. 21 May 1999

Public Libraries Acts

- Acts from various countries and regions available on the Section's Website

IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, 1994

- Available in more than 20 languages on the Section's Website

Section of Public Libraries-Information Brochure

- *Available from IFLA HQ*

Conference Programme

1999 Bangkok

1. Public Library Section Open Forum:
Speakers:
Kulthorn Lerdsuriyakul, *Public Libraries in Thailand*
Ilona Glashoff, *The Division of Libraries Serving the General Public-a survey*
Rosemary Kavanagh, *Highlights of the Work of the Section for the Blind*
Sue Lithgow, *Library and Information Services to Disadvantaged Users:the way forward*
Philip Gill, *Highlight of the Work of the Section of Public Libraries*
2. *Developing the Public Library*
Speakers:
Robert Pestell and Abu Norma Seman, *Public Library services to rural and remote communities: Malaysian and Australian models*
Christine Ku Scott-Smith, *The Challenges of Providing public library services in a multicultural and geographically remote area*
Philip Gill, Barbara Clubb, Kerstin Hassner, Robert Pestell, *Developing Public Libraries: revising the IFLA Guidelines for Public Libraries*

2000 Jerusalem

1. Open Forum: Public Libraries Serving the General Public
Theme: *Public Library Guidelines for a New Century*
Speakers:
Philip Gill, UK, *Presentation of the new Public Library Services: Guidelines for Development*
2. Public Libraries Section jointly with CLM (Copyright and Other Legal Matter)
Theme: *Public Lending Right in the 21st Century*
Speakers:
Marianne Scott, National Librarian of Canada Emerita
Miriam Ratsabi, Culture Directorate, Israel
Paul Whitney, Burnaby Public Library, Canada
Helge Sonneland, Royal Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Norway
Kalju tammaru, Estonian Deposit Library, Estonia
Tuula Haavisto, CECUP/EBLIDA, Finland
3. Public Libraries Section Open Forum
Theme: *Public Libraries Facing the 21st Century*
Speakers:
Britt Marie Häggström, Sweden, *Public Libraries and Life Long Learning-a section project*
Tuula Haavisto, *Licensing Update*
Frode Bakken, Norway, *Copyright Update*
Ora Nebenzahl, Israel, *Public Libraries in Israel*
Philip Gill, UK, *Public Library Service-Guidelines for Development Overview*
Margaret Kinnell Evans, UK, *Quality Management and Self Assessment Tools for public libraries*
4. Public Libraries Section Joint with Libraries For the Blind Section
Theme: *Building Smart Communities: Knowledge as the Key to Growth and Development*
Sub-theme: *Telephone Access to Library Services*
Speakers:
Uri Cohen, Israel
Rosemary Griebel, Canada
Francisco Martinez Calvo, Spain
Sub-theme: *Unique Opportunities to Provide Reference Service to Everyone*
Neal Kuniandy, USA
Margaret Kinnell Evans, UK
Sub-Theme: *Smart Communities: What are they and How do they Benefit Everyone in the Community*
Stan Skrezesewski, Canada
Elizabeth Tank, Denmark

Relationships with Other Bodies

- Working with Unesco in the promotion of the Public Library Manifesto and the development of the accompanying guidelines for development
- Working with Section for Regional Activity on a future conference on library development in Africa
- Working with IFLA's CLM (Copyright and Other Legal Matters) to deal with copyright issues related to public libraries
- Working with IFLA's Section on Services for the Blind to develop related workshops services within public libraries

- Working with the Swedish Council for Cultural Affairs and the Municipality of Ljusdal, Sweden plus participating countries to evaluate the UNET (Unesco Model Library Project)

Prepared by: Barbara Clubb, Chair

Date: 12 February 2001