



Section for Public Libraries

Annual Report

January to December 2005

Scope Statement

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

Overview

This was an important year for the Section as an election year the Section was over subscribed with nominations and a full election took place. Several long standing members of the Committee left including past officers Barbara Club (Chair from 2001 – 2003) and Ngian Lek Choh (Information Co-ordinator 2003 – 2005). It was also significant in that the Section welcomed 4 members from the former Mobiles Library Section following its disbandment due to insufficient nominations. That Section's work is of great importance to IFLA and will form a significant part of the Section in this term of our Committee.

Our Chair and Secretary, Torny Kjekstad and John Lake, were elected to the posts of Chair and Secretary of Division III Libraries Serving the General Public and the Chair also represented us on the Professional Committee and Governing Board as well as serving on the Bill and Melinda Gates Access to Learning Awards judging panel.

The Meeting User Needs project was fulfilled in August 2005 by John Lake, Monica Medina Blanes and Elena Boretti, being launched at the WLIC

Conference in Oslo in 2005 and this project will be continued as a resource on IFLANET on an ongoing basis.

Section of the Public Libraries Standing Committee for 2005

Boettger, Klaus-Peter (Treasurer)	Nivnická, Libuse (Joined 2005)
Boretti, Elena (Retired August 2005)	Malminen, Marja (Joined 2005)
Budnik Sinay, Clara	Margolis, Bernard (Retired 2005)
Burgetova, Jarmila Ph Dr. (Retired 2005)	Martikainen, Tuula (Retired 2005)
Clubb, Barbara H. (Retired 2005)	Medina Blanes, Monica
de Klerk, Carolyn (Joined 2005)	Okojie, Victoria O. (Joined 2005*)
Gubbin, Barbara (Joined 2005)	Ornholt, Ruth (Joined 2005*)
Hassner, Kerstin (Retired 2005)	Oyartzún, Gonzalo (Joined 2005)
Jelks, Joyce (Joined 2005*)	Payette, Suzanne (Joined 2005)
Kitching, Karin	Pérez-Salmerón, Gloria (Joined 2005)
Kjekstad, Torny (Chair)	Pilane, Morwadi M.
Konradsson Mortin, Gunilla	Poncé, Florence
Lake, John (Secretary)	Sherman, Mary
Lee, Yuk-man (Joined 2005)	Skov, Kent
Lek Choh, Ngian (Inf. Co-ordinator retired from 2005)	Stringer, Ian (Information Co-ordinator joined 2005*)
Li, Jingxia	Ustinova, Olga

* Transferred from Mobiles Section which was discontinued in 2005

Corresponding member

Rashidah Begum, Malaysia

Membership of Section as at August 2005

339 (318 Public and 21 Mobile Section members)

Chair:

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Secretary:

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Information Co-ordinator and Newsletter Editor:**Stringer, Ian**

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Mid Term Programme Goals 2005 - 07

1. To promote equal access to all
2. To raise the quality of services in public libraries by defining standards, developing guidelines, and documenting and disseminating best practices.
3. To promote the importance of training and professional development for librarians
4. To defend the role of the public library in democratizing access to and the use of information technology
5. To promote literacy, reading development and lifelong learning projects
6. To promote networking and cooperation between libraries and other agencies
7. To balance the needs of users with the intellectual property rights of authors
8. To promote the role of Libraries in Society
9. To develop section membership
10. To market the Public Libraries Section
11. To mount successful programs at IFLA conferences
12. To manage section finances effectively

Standing Committee Meetings

1. Mid-Year Standing Committee Meetings on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 February 2005 held in Francesca Bonnemaïson Library, Barcelona, Spain
2. Minutes of the Standing Committee Meetings during Oslo World Library and Information Congress Saturday 13 and Friday 19 of August, 2005

Projects related to Mid-term Programme

1. Marketing the Public Library Guidelines
Project leaders: John Lake and Suzanne Payette
2. Development of Section website
Project leader: Ian Stringer
3. Meeting User Needs
Project leader: Monica Medina Blanes,
4. Libraries, Archives and Museums Research Project
Project leader: Barbara Clubb
5. Updating the IFLA/Unesco Public Library Manifesto
Project Leader: Gloria Pérez-Salmerón
6. The Caterpillar Project
Project leader: Ian Stringer
7. Revising the IFLA/Unesco Public Library Guidelines and producing in e-book format.
Project leader: John Lake

Publications

1. Newsletter
Issue 31 February 2005
Issue 32 August 2005
2. Poster for the Public Library Guidelines presented in the IFLA Exhibition at the World Library and Information Congress, Oslo 2005.
3. Leaflet for the Meeting User Needs Project distributed at the World Library and Information Congress, Oslo 2005.

4. IFLA/Unesco Public Library Guidelines for Development
 - Available on IFLANET in 9 languages and translated into 40 languages (including 13 of the 18 most significant Indian languages translated and published in 2005)
 - A3 Poster available on IFLANET
 - A5 Leaflet available on IFLANET
 - Leaflet and poster published in Norwegian for the Oslo Conference August 2006.
5. The Role of Libraries in Lifelong Learning
Final report of the IFLA project under the Section for Public Libraries. Edited by Britt Marie Häggström. 2004.
6. IFLA Section of Public Libraries, Bangkok 1999
National Information Policy/National IT Strategies - A Survey

News & Updates on the Website

1. Update April 2005
2. Newsletter Issue 31 February 2005
Newsletter Issue 32 August 2005
3. Poster for the Public Library Guidelines
4. Leaflet for the Meeting User Needs Project
5. Call for Papers "Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society"
20-24 August 2006, Seoul, Korea
Public Libraries Section With Audiovisual And Multimedia Section
The Public Libraries Section with the Audiovisual and Multimedia Section
6. IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, 1994
Available in 25 languages on IFLANET
7. Membership Brochure (updated 2004) available on IFLANET
8. Mobile Libraries Archive available on IFLANET

Conference Programmes

1. **Satellite Meeting on the Management, Marketing, Evaluation and Promotion of Library Services**

Based on statistics, analyses and evaluation in your own library

Date: 9-11 August 2005

Place: Norway, Bergen

Sponsors: Management & Marketing, Public Libraries and Library Theory and Research Sections.

Attendance: 65 tbc

2. **Satellite meeting on Public Libraries from Public Education to what?**

Designing the new strategies for Public Paradises to Adults, Children and Young

Date: 10-11 August 2005

Place: Norway, Stavanger

Sponsors: Libraries for Children and Young Adults and Public Libraries Sections

Attendance:

3. **Nordic Mobile Meet and Conference to Further the Knowledge and Development of Mobile Library Services**

Date: 12-14 August 2005

Place: Norway, Oslo

Sponsor: Mobile Libraries Section

4. **Poster Session 76: The IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Guidelines for Development.**

5. **Session 104 SI - Division of Libraries Serving the General Public Partnerships and public libraries.**

Tuesday 16 August.

- The value of public libraries
SVANHILD AABØ (Oslo University College, Oslo, Norway)
- Partnerships: a critical element for libraries
MARTHA CHOE (Director, Global Libraries, Representative of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)
- Public Library Partnerships which add value to the community - The Hamilton Public Library experience
BETH HOVIUS (Hamilton Public Library, Hamilton, Canada)

- The necessity of working with partnerships
LIV SÆTEREN (Oslo City Library, Deichmanske biblioteket, Oslo, Norway)

Attendance: 280

6. **Session 112 Mobile Libraries**

A voyage to discovery - libraries on the move

- Un servicio veterano: el bibliobús en León (España)
LOURDES DE SANTOS (Universidad de León, León Spain)
- Mobile libraries in groups: an innovation to improve the library service in the depressed area
LI ZHAOCHUN and PAN MIAOHUI (Sun Yat-Sen Library of Guangdong Province, Guangzhou, China)
- The Mobile Culture Library: Gaerjah Sijti Jarngeste
TOM KAPPFJELL (Nordland County Library, Norway)
- INFOBUS: Meeting the Information Needs of Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups in Post-Conflict Societies
MERCEDES SPROUSE (Information Program, Open Society Institute-Europe)

Attendance: ?

7. **Session 127 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation - Access to Learning Award 2005**

The official announcement and presentation of the Access to Learning Award for 2005. Members of the Standing Committee assisted with the awards ceremony.

Attendance: Full house, approx. 200

8. **Session 141 Public Libraries**

The library as a hotspot

Moderator: KENT SKOV (Chief Librarian, Head of Information, Media and Logistics, Odense Centralbibliotek, Denmark)

- Public Libraries in Denmark and the on-line and digital information service - what is it about?
KNUD SCHULZ (Aarhus Library, Aarhus, Denmark)
- The Norwegian Digital Library - easy access to information and knowledge sources
CAROL VAN NUYS (Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority, Oslo, Norway)

- Estonian Public Libraries in a rapidly changing society
MEELI VESKUS (Ministry of Culture, Tallinn, Estonia)
- ¡Atrapa a ese usuario!: jóvenes y bibliotecas
MONICA MEDINA BLANES (Barcelona Library Consortium,
Barcelona, Spain)

Attendance: 190

9. Session 151 Public Libraries and the Democratic Process DG

Opinions and ideas about the vital role which libraries play to the fulfilment of a democratic process in countries

Moderator: JENS THORHAUGE (Danish State Library Directorate, Copenhagen, Denmark)

Attendance: 70

10. Session 155 - Libraries for the Blind with Public Libraries

Achieving inclusion through partnership

- The three tiers of government and the many tears of librarians: library and information services for people with print disabilities in South Africa
JOHAN ROOS (South African Library for the Blind, Grahamstown, South Africa)
- Services for the blind in the public libraries of Vietnam: making Vietnamese public libraries more accessible to visually impaired people
NGUYEN THI BAC (General Sciences Library, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)
- Visunet Canada Partners Program: a partnership offered by the CNIB Library to libraries and library consortia in Canada to extend their services to members of their communities who are unable to read and print
MARGARET McGRORY (CNIB Library, Toronto, Canada)
- Public library as an agent of a Braille library
KEUN HAE YOUK (Korean Braille Library, Seoul, Korea)
- Charity, charges and chaos: the story of library services for visually impaired people in the UK
HELEN BRAZIER (National Library for the Blind, Stockport, UK)

- Library services for all: the Swedish way
INGAR BECKMAN HIRSCHFELDT (Swedish Library of Talking Books and Braille, Enskede, Sweden)
- Advancing Library Services for the blind in the global information society
ALEX BYRNE (University of Technology, Sydney, Australia)

11. Evening visit to Baerum Public Library, Oslo. Thursday 18 August.

Relationship with Other Bodies

- Working with Unesco in the promotion of the Public Library Manifesto and the Public Library Guidelines for Development
- Working with IFLA Management and Marketing Section for a programme for a pre-conference in Bergen, Norway 2005.
- Working with the IFLA Children's and Young Peoples Section for a pre-conference seminar in Stavanger, Norway in 2005
- Working with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to promote and hold the Access to Learning Awards at each World Congress in Oslo in August 2005.
- Working with the Norwegian Archive Library and Museum Authority to produce the IFLA/Unesco Public Library Guidelines leaflet and poster and a reprint of the Guidelines in Norwegian for the WLIC in Oslo 2005.

Prepared by: John Lake, Secretary
Date: 28 January 2006

 **Public Libraries Section:** <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s8/index.htm>