



IFLA Bibliography Section

Minutes of Standing Committee meetings WLIC: Buenos Aires, Argentina 2004

SC I. August 22, 2004

Attending: Bohdana Stoklasova (Chair), Talbott Huey (Secretary), Whitney Coe, Alexander Dzhigo, Randi Diget Hansen, Agneta Holmenmark, Unni Knutsen, Francisca Movilla Lopez, Alexandra Teplitskaya, Regina Varniene, Beacher Wiggins, Yukio Yokoyama, Elena Zhabko, Maja Zumer. *Visitor:* Christian Lupovici.

1. Introductions were made and members welcomed. The agenda and the minutes of the Berlin meetings, previously made available electronically, were adopted. Bohdana Stoklasova presented the financial report, which revealed a balance of E577.
2. Talbott Huey reported on the meeting of the Division IV Coordinating Board of the previous day, passing on information and policies from “higher headquarters.”
 - A. The CB passed on from the Professional Board various recommendations concerning the handling of the present conference; among others, that 2004 conference papers from Division IV judged suitable for publication should be forwarded for first refusal to the editor of *International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control*, and that every effort should be made in presentations to keep them brief and interesting, with time for questions and answers.
 - B. Sections are encouraged to continue efforts to recruit members, especially from countries not well represented already.
 - C. There will be 17 satellite meetings offered in connection with the 2005 WLIC in Oslo. They will be open to all, but with a fee, part of which is to be returned to IFLA.
 - D. New proposals have been made to improve the process of electing chairs of coordinating boards. The problem: some chairs have had little experience at the section level; or, conversely, some have had heavy section responsibilities in addition to divisional. Sections are encouraged to submit opinions and suggestions.
 - E. The Cataloguing Section has volunteered to be the first in the division to undergo the review to which all sections will be subject before 2007. The experiences of Cataloguing will become the basis for carrying out further section reviews. The review will feature a self-critique, and stress quantitative measures such as attendance at meetings and programmes.
 - F. Funding procedures for section projects was reviewed. Projects approved by coordinating boards must be ratified by the Professional Committee. In Division IV, some projects have been partially supported by national libraries through ICABS. Sections should include their projects in their strategic plans during WLICs, then seek approval in the fall of the year. Project time begins January 1, with a report due the following December. Requests for extensions must be submitted and approved. Each CB gets E1000 per section per year to fund projects. Each section is limited to two projects at a time.
 - G. The Governing Board meeting reported that this conference will be heavily attended. [Final figures reflected this].
 - H. The two proposals for change in IFLA statutes (concerning membership fees) were sent out as postal ballots.

1219 voters were eligible; only 321 responded. Both proposals passed by large margins.

- I. Sections were urged to involve members in the IFLA raffle, designed to raise funds for travel subsidies. [Several members bought tickets, and some were successful].
 - J. IFLA finances are tight. There was 5% less income from dues this year and fewer corporate sponsors. Most of the deficit was incurred by FAIFE and ALP. Total deficit was E98,000.
 - K. Unni Knutsen, as Oslo liaison for Division IV, noted that the Oslo WLIS would come at special time for Norway, marking the 100th anniversary of the separation from Sweden.
3. Bohdana continued with a report on the Section's planned activities for the Buenos Aires conference. She and others would report again at the Division IV Open Session on Wednesday, August 25, and the Section's programme on the state of national bibliography in Latin America/Caribbean would be on Thursday, August 26. Unni Knutsen, the author of the survey and organizer of the Section programme, thanked the translators and briefly described the four papers on national bibliographies and the presentation on the CIP survey by Beacher Wiggins.
 4. After a break, Regina Varniene advised that there would be a conference on universal bibliographic control of continuing resources in connection with the ISSN Directors' Meeting in Vilnius, on September 10, 2004; she urged attendance. Regina and Unni Knutsen of our Section will present papers.
 5. The discussion turned to planning the further efforts of the Section's working groups on guidelines for national bibliographies (NBs) and the handling of electronic resources in NBs. Bohdana stated she felt there should be only one large group to deal with both questions about these closely related subjects. Contact should be made with "beginners" in NB publication, some guidelines and analysis can be provided, and then we can move on to deal with electronic resources. Maja Zumer agreed there was much overlap of the issues, and noted that the question of selection of electronic resources was a third related subject; could one group focus on all three? Unni suggested that for the Oslo conference the focus should be on selecting electronic resources and guidelines, as specified in our strategic plan, while the focus for Seoul and Durban should be regional, as in the present conference. Thus the Oslo programme would include an overall paper on electronic resources, one on selection criteria, and one on the Scandinavian situation. Further programmes would rely on more regional surveys.

Beacher Wiggins, agreeing with Bohdana, said the proposed two groups were not so different, and could be combined to consider all the questions, with each conference programme building on the earlier ones. Bohdana noted that John Byrum has volunteered to prepare a paper for Oslo on portals, navigation, etc. And should there be a separate survey for the Nordic countries, or for Europe as a region? Maja pointed out that whatever we do must show our efforts have added value to the ongoing efforts to deal with these matters. There was general agreement that a single working group was practical, and the following agreed to serve on it: Maja Zumer, Bohdana Stoklasova, Unni Knutsen, Christian Lupovici, Beacher Wiggins, Whitney Coe, Regina Varniene, Randi Diget Hansen, and Agneta Holmenmark; Alan Danskin and Tuula Haapamaki were reported to also want to serve. Priorities for the group's work would be established according to the planned conference activities and to the need to add value through our efforts. It was agreed that the working group would meet once during the conference (on Monday, August 23) and again in the fall somewhere in Europe; Bohdana suggested Prague might be suitable. The group would begin to create a new survey, based less on national efforts and more on selection criteria in general. Talbott Huey said that to transform Unni's current survey into East Asian terms and languages for the Seoul conference would be difficult; and informal group of himself, Whitney Coe and Yukio Yokoyama would begin work and also begin to seek contacts for the Seoul programme.

Unni brought up the fact that we know that national bibliographic agencies (NBAs) often have more material under bibliographic control than they publish in the national bibliography. Maja noted that many NBAs catalogue electronic resources but don't include them in the NB, so guidelines on selection criteria should include selection for cataloguing. Further discussion led to agreement on conducting a European survey as a pilot study, to focus on models and uncovering "hidden" resources.

6. Discussion of the planned Oslo programme continued. Bohdana brought up the question of partnering in such a programme with another section of Division IV, suggesting that our effort was probably best kept separate, despite pressure from "above" to present a joint or combined programme. Cooperation with other sections was still possible, however. She planned in any case submit a request for financial support for the new survey;

however, Unni said there was enough money left over to pay for a new mailing.

The first session adjourned at 11:20.

SC II August 28, 2004

Attending: as in SC I, plus Claudia Werner.

1. Bohdana Stoklasova reviewed the Section's programme of a few days previous. It was very successful, attracting about 200 attendees. Having the chair speak in Spanish worked well. The approach of reviewing the region's national bibliographies was successful. She apologized to Beacher Wiggins for having been forced to cancel his presentation due to time constraints, which were the result of bad conference scheduling. It was suggested that all the papers be sent to ICBC for possible publication, and all the speakers should be reminded that IFLA has first refusal for publishing the papers. Unni Knutsen pointed out that the papers contained fuller information than was presented orally. There was general agreement that the Cuba paper was especially valuable in exposing problems common to the region. Maja Zumer said that the paper on Argentina, which explained that lack of a NB, was the unfortunate result of the NBA giving its functions away to other agencies; she claimed that this was the kind of generalization our work can reveal.
2. Maja then reported briefly on the meeting of the working group of August 23.; she will produce a more detailed draft later. The group devised an agenda, starting with the question "Who are the users of the NB, in what context, and what information do they need?" and then moving on to discuss selection criteria, etc. The group will draft a formal proposal, have discussions by e-mail, and meet in Europe in November. Bohdana's invitation to Prague is firm. The survey will be a pilot study focused on Europe.
3. Returning to evaluation of the Buenos Aires conference: discussion centered on criticism of the timing of presentations; little time between sessions led to delay and confusion. Bohdana stated that in the future there should be no more than three presentations per programme, and time should be left for questions. Talbott Huey suggested the promised Byrum paper could be a keynote or overview for Oslo, as the Hazen paper was for this conference. It was also noted that the Spanish to Russian translation in this conference was bad; German and English were all right.
4. A discussion on publications followed, focusing first on the Section newsletter. There was agreement that it should be expanded, with 2-3 page summaries in both English and Spanish of the conference presentations, an editorial or generalizing piece, and illustrations, including photos of the speakers. The forthcoming issue has been postponed from earlier in 2004, and should be numbered accordingly. Distribution would be mostly electronic, appearing on IFLANET, and sent to all 106 Section members, to library associations and/or NBAs worldwide, and to conference participants. Hard copies of record will be sent to IFLA.
5. At this point, Claudia Lux intervened to raise questions about the Section's recent allegations (as in our programme of 2002) that publishers need to be more helpful in providing bibliographic information to NBAs in the effort to produce more complete NBs. As a member of the International Publishers Association-IFLA working group, she has been hearing from publishers that there is no problem; that they are fully in compliance with legal deposit, etc. Talbott responded that the Section knew of many cases, particularly in Eastern Europe, Russia, and the developing countries, in which a large proportion of published works were not reported or delivered to NBAs by publishers. The point should be made to them that it is in their interest to have this bibliographic data (now, particularly metadata) in national bibliographies, for advertising, marketing analysis, etc. Several Section members pointed out that publisher compliance was made easier through schemes like Onyx, and through CIP and numbering systems such as ISBNs. Claudia said that the publishers in IPA were all large multinational firms; Talbott suggested they might want to include representation from smaller publishers outside the main stream, and also work with national library associations to arrange cooperative solutions. If the IFLA members of the working group decide to propose a statement on the matter in the October meeting, the Section can provide a draft outlining the problem and proposed solutions.
6. Bohdana suggested that our updating of the Section strategic plan be completed after the conference; she will submit a draft via e-mail.
7. After a break, and further discussion of the Oslo programme and possible partnership with another section,

Unni suggested that our section continue to insist on presenting our own programme, but that the other sections of Division IV could present their programmes in connection with ours, one after another on the same day. It was enthusiastically decided to advocate this at division level—a “Division IV open day,” so to speak.

8. In conclusion, Bohdana said she hoped the Section could put off the review exercise until 2007, partly because new officers will be in place beginning next year. In that connection, Standing Committee members should make nominations in the coming months for the next chair and secretary. Talbott asked that any news of NB activity around the world be reported for inclusion in our newsletter. Beacher and Unni reminded that this year’s speakers should be notified that ICBC will have first refusal on their papers for publication.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Talbott Huey
Secretary

 **Bibliography Section:** <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s12/index.htm>