



International Federation of Library Associations
August 24, 2007 Durban, South Africa
Standing Committee Meeting II - Minutes

Present: Jerry W. Mansfield, Chair (USA)
Patrick Ryan, Information Coordinator (UK)
Maria Goeckeritz (Germany)
Inger Jepsson (Sweden)
Maija Jussilainen (Finland)
Emma Voskanyan (Russia)
Jane Wu (Italy)

New chair, Jerry W. Mansfield, opened the meeting with introductions, a welcome to guests and a much deserved thanks to outgoing chair, Nancy Bolt, who led the Section for the previous two years. Nancy Bolt was also thanked for her guidance, innovation and continued work on the *Guidelines for Government Libraries*.

The chair reported on items from an IFLA meeting held for officers:

- Steve Witt, (USA) chair of the Social Science Section, is chair of Division II – Special Libraries, and represents us on the Coordinating Board. It was reported that there are five IFLA Divisions in agreement that institutional membership in a Section should be at least 40 paying members
- The IFLA website is slated for a complete makeover with the assurance that it will be easier to find material on the site. By popular request, a calendar of deadlines will be posted and plans are for the Information Coordinators to be able to input information directly onto their Section's site
- Administrative funds available to the Government Libraries Section will be €325 which will become available in mid-January 2008. Administrative funds may be used for projects, postage, printing or to pay for a one-day conference registration for a speaker. Fund requests must still be approved by the Section officers and the chair of the Coordinating Board.

Guidelines Completion

The timetable for completion of the *Guidelines* is June 2008. Jerry will prepare a proposal for funding to cover the cost of final editing and proofreading in the amount of €700 for editing and €500 for professional proofreading.

Institutional Membership

Some discussion was held as to the marketing necessary to increase the institutional membership of the Government Libraries Section. Due to the small size of IFLA HQ staff, it is not possible for them to promote one Section over another and attempt to increase institutional membership. Therefore, the onus of institutional membership growth will fall back on the various Sections of IFLA. The chair stated that he will review the list of institutional members and attempt to identify others with a government library focus who might be potential members.

Québec and Milan Conferences

The Section agreed that its program theme for Québec will be “Conquering Barriers: The Politics of Information – Communication, Collaboration, and Content.” A proposal was made by Frank Kirkwood for a pre-conference in Montréal on the theme of Globalisation of Government Information for which

Government Libraries was being approached as a sponsor. After some discussion, it was decided that we would participate in the spirit of cooperation and recognition of cross cutting objectives between the two sections with minimal involvement by Government Libraries Section members.

The Government Libraries Section has committed to co-sponsoring a Québec program with the Library and Research for Parliaments and the Law Libraries Sections on the authentication of digital law entitled – “The Seal of Approval: Official and Authentic Law in Digital Form.” More information on this program will be forthcoming after approval of the joint program by the IFLA Governing Board in December 2007.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Patrick Ryan
Acting Secretary