



IFLA MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS SECTION

5th Meeting of the
Management of Library Associations Standing Committee

Saturday, August 13, 2005 at the Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania and
Friday, August 19, 2005 at the OsloKongressenter/Folkets Hus,
Oslo, Norway

Minutes

1. Welcome

IFLA Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) Chair Keith Michael Fiels called the meeting to order and welcomed those present to the 5th MLAS Standing Committee meeting.

Standing Committee members present were:

- * Norma Amenu-Kpodo (Commonwealth Library Association)
- * Edita Bacic (Croatian Library Assoc.)
- * Arlene Cohen (Pacific Islands Assoc. of Libraries and Archives, Guam), Secretary
- * Keith Michael Fiels (American Library Assoc.)
- * Carla J. Funk (Medical Library Assoc., USA)
- ** Loida Garcia-Febo (Co-opt member from the New Professionals Discussion Group)
- * Britt Marie Häggström (DIK Association)
- ** Stuart Hamilton (Co-opt member from the New Professionals Discussion Group)
- Boris Marshak (ELNIT Assoc.)
- ** Jill Martin (CILIP: The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals)
- * Jennefer Nicholson (Australian Library and Information Assoc.), IFLA Info. Coord.
- * Alicia Ocaso (Uruguayan Library Assoc.)
- * Jan-Ewout van der Putten (Netherlands Public Library Assoc.)
- * Tuula Ruhanen (Finnish Research Library Assoc.)
- * Sinikka Sipilä (Finnish Library Assoc.)
- * Sabine Stummeyer (Berufsverband Information Bibliothek e.V.)
- * Winnie Vitzansky (The Danish Library Assoc.)
- * Duane Webster (Assoc. of Research Libraries, USA)

* indicates attendance at both sessions

** indicates attendance at 2nd session only

Observers present at the 1st session included Kelly Moore (IFLA Headquarters) and 16 others representing library associations in Algeria, Barbados, Canada, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Nigeria, Norway, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.

Observers present at the 2nd session included Alex Byrne (IFLA President-elect), Birgitta Sandell (IFLA Advancement of Librarianship Programme), María Isabel Franca (IFLA Division 8 and Regional Activities: Latin America and the Caribbean Section), Elizabet de Carvalho (IFLA Regional Activities: Latin America and the Caribbean Section), and 11 others representing library associations in Canada, Croatia, France, Nigeria, Norway, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Secretary asked that we add item 10(e) MLAS Listserv after item 10(d). The agenda was approved as amended.

3. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

4. Approval of *Minutes* from the 4th MLAS Standing Committee meeting, February 3, 2005 – February 5, 2005 in Canberra, Australia.

The minutes were amended in item 15 to delete the 'is' in "manpower is available"; in item 18, under **Creative Commons**, to read "Jennefer Nicholson reported that the ALIA Copyright and IP committee is ..."; and under **ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group**, to delete 'supported' in "ALIA supported special ...". The minutes were approved as amended.

5. Election of MLAS Chair and Secretary for 2005 – 2007

As per IFLA Statutes, the terms of the current Chair and Secretary were completed at the end of this meeting and elections were held for a Chair and Secretary for the 2005 – 2007 term. Jan-Ewout van der Putten nominated Keith Michael Fiels to serve as MLAS Chair. There were no other nominations and Keith was elected by acclamation. Keith Fiels then nominated Jill Martin to serve as Secretary. There were no other nominations and Jill was elected by acclamation.

6. Financial report

The Financial Report was distributed indicating that the IFLA MLAS account has a balance of 5,342.45 EUR (approximately \$6,515.18 USD) as of July 31, 2005, in an interest bearing account at the Harris Bank, Chicago, Illinois. From January 1, 2003 through July 31, 2005, the account has earned 135.11 EUR (approximately \$164.68 USD) in interest. Since the last report, there have been no disbursements or receipts other than the interest, as noted.

As in past years, the MLAS does not qualify for 2005 administrative funds from IFLA because of the balance in our account. IFLA Headquarters has requested that all Sections move their money to IFLA Headquarters. In the case of the MLAS, these funds are not IFLA funds as they were received as a grant from SLA and did not originally come from IFLA. There was some discussion regarding the need to spend these funds during the current year. The MLAS Chair indicated that \$2,000 has already been committed to the Pacific Islands regional conference. Jennefer Nicholson also reported that work still needs to be done on the French and German translations of the *Guidelines* brochures and bills will be submitted when the work is completed. It is not yet clear how much of the funds would be available for supporting other regional association development workshops, as was proposed by a number of standing committee members.

7. MLAS Chair report from the Governing Board

The MLAS Chair attended the last IFLA Governing Board meeting, continuing as a *co-opted* member for this year. He reported on the highlights of the meeting, which included the establishment of an IFLA endowment to be administered by a Board of Trustees. This will serve as a fund raising arm of IFLA. He also reported that IFLA Secretary General Peter Lor has proposed a general review of the IFLA organization, administrative processes and regional offices by an outside reviewer, in order to see how efficiency can be increased.

Keith Fiels also announced and invited all representatives of National Associations members to attend the National Associations meeting scheduled for Tuesday August 16, 2005 at 1:45 – 3:45 at the Christiansalen in the Christiania Hotel.

8. GLAD Program report

The report began with Sylvia Piggott, the Global Library Association Development (GLAD) Program Chair thanking her Committee for the excellent job they did in working together to develop the GLAD framework and creating the GLAD Program document. Those serving on the committee with Sylvia were Elizabeth Watson, Jill Martin, Keith Michael Fiels, Janice Lachance, Michael Dowling and Kelly Moore.

The MLAS Chair then reported that the GLAD Program was approved by the IFLA Governing Board at their last meeting (Document GB 04-186), the culmination of several months of work by the GLAD Program Committee. The only change to the program was that “each year, if feasible, the committee will select up to at least 3 mentors and mentees for addition to the programme.” This was changed from “no more than 3 mentors and mentees.”

The group discussed the need for developing a communication plan to get information out to library associations throughout the world promoting the GLAD Program. One of the tools will be the database of library associations being developed by Kelly Moore and Michael Dowling. The database will also be used for benchmarking and planning purposes, and would combine directory information (which is currently collected by the American Library Association in conjunction with IFLA) with statistical, as well as organizational information. A list of current database fields was distributed and the group made several suggestions for added fields.

The group then discussed the following steps for implementing the GLAD program:

1. Enlarge the GLAD Program Committee to include people representing the regions. To begin, Alicia Ocaso will join the committee and the group will work on refining the GLAD Program.
2. Add introductory materials to the GLAD WWW site.
3. Stress the importance of the relationship being peer-to peer and not just paternalistic mentoring such as only paying for IFLA memberships.
4. Kelly Moore provided Keith Fiels with a list of those associations that did not renew their IFLA membership. These could be the first we can reach out to with the GLAD Program as potential twinning partners in order to encourage them to rejoin IFLA.
5. Develop a method of evaluation of the GLAD Program.

The GLAD WWW site is hosted by the American Library Association with links to the IFLA WWW site and already contains the Mentor and Mentee application forms. The current URL is <<http://cs.ala.org/iro/GLAD/>>

The group agreed the GLAD Program was an excellent opportunity to establish the credibility of the MLAS in fostering library association development throughout the world.

9. MLAS support of regional workshops

Birgitta Sandell, the IFLA Advancement of Librarianship (ALP) Programme Director was invited to the MLAS meeting to discuss how ALP and the MLAS could work together. The group discussed the importance of developing a strong working relationship with ALP to develop and strengthen library associations in developing areas. ALP works directly with the three Regional Sections in funding regional projects and is aware of developments within the regions. Moreover, ALP already has the network in place to reach librarians and library associations in developing areas and is the most appropriate place within IFLA to begin promoting the GLAD program.

ALP is one of the only funding sources within IFLA providing grants to projects in developing areas. Among several project proposals ALP has received, Birgitta discussed two projects for regional workshops designed to develop and strengthen library associations. The Pacific Islands Association of Libraries Archives (PIALA) proposed one for an advocacy workshop (originally planned for November 2006, but rescheduled for November 2007) in conjunction with the PIALA Annual Conference. The other proposal was in conjunction with the Tanzania Library Association hosting the 17th Standing Conference of East, Central and Southern African Librarians (SCECSAL) conference in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in July 2006.

Both of these conferences will draw people together from wide geographic areas and provide an excellent venue to promote GLAD and library association development in the respective regions. In that the MLAS has some funds not originally derived from IFLA, the group discussed the possibility of using these funds to help support these two regional workshops.

Keith Fiels asked that we allocate \$ 2,000 to support the PIALA Conference and the group agreed. Arlene Cohen then asked that we allocate \$2,000 to support the Tanzania workshop and the group agreed to this as well.

There was also some discussion about other possible regional workshops as well as planning a satellite meeting for the IFLA 2007 Conference in Durban, South Africa. Sylvia Piggott offered to be the liaison for a potential satellite meeting in Durban and will look at possible linkages with other groups. Some discussions have begun in Oslo and this item will be on the MLAS 2006 Mid-year meeting agenda in Zagreb, Croatia.

10. Information Coordinator's Report

a. IFLANET MLAS WWW site status report - Jennefer Nicholson reported additional translated *Guidelines* brochures were added to the WWW site and we are close to having all of them translated and posted. She also reported that IFLA would be making some changes to the entire IFLA WWW site.

b. Electronic communication plan - Jennefer Nicholson asked that we wait until the MLAS 2006-2007 *Strategic Plan* is done. Then, based on the *Strategic Plan*, we can develop our electronic communications plan.

c. Status report of IFLA glossary or dictionary of terms and definitions with translations into IFLA languages – Keith Fiels reported he would ask the Governing Board to undertake this as a project. Moreover, there are inconsistencies across the entire IFLA WWW site that need to be addressed. Keith will draft a letter to the Governing Board covering both items.

d. Guidelines brochures – Jennefer Nicholson reported that the German *Guidelines* brochures still need to be translated. Some felt that we should not pay for translations and suggested that the national library associations might be willing to volunteer. This had been done in the past and there were some problems. Jennefer is to consult with the German library associations about doing the translations before committing to having a professional translator doing the German *Guidelines* brochure translations.

She also reported some of the existing brochures are also being redone into more readable .pdf files. Work will continue on this project with the translations done in Australia, formatting done through the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and financial support from the MLAS account.

e. MLAS Listserv – Arlene Cohen reported the Special Library Association continues to host our listserv, which began in 2002. Currently, our database has 309 active subscribers as of August 2005. This was a growth of 102 subscribers since August 2004. Arlene will continue to work with SLA in maintaining the MLAS Listserv.

11. Report on IFLA 2005 Oslo MLAS Open Session Program

The program, *Strong Associations Make Stronger Libraries*, proved quite successful, drawing an audience of 119 people. It began with Keith Fiels speaking on “Why Do We Need

Associations?: The Value of Library Associations to Libraries and Librarians,” which laid the foundation for Sylvia Piggot and Janice Lachance to present “The Global Library Association Development (GLAD) Program and GLAD 'Twinning' Program: A New Tool for Global Library Development.” The final paper, “Empowering Library Associations in Asia – South-South cooperation,” by Susanne Ørnager discussed specific regional strategies for library association development.

The final part of the Open Session was small group discussions where the participants discussed what would help them to develop their library associations. An MLAS SC member led each small group and took notes of the discussion. Keith Fiels and Jill Martin will compile the notes and post them on the MLAS listserv, hopefully providing a good source of information for further planning and resource allocation.

12. *MLAS Strategic Plan*

Jennefer Nicholson, Alicia Ocaso, Sabine Stummeyer and Winnie Vitzansky, the MLAS Strategic Plan Workgroup, distributed a draft of the 2006-2007 plan. They noted that this draft plan only has 3 goals and relies on using the IFLA infrastructure and mechanisms that currently exist to implement our actions.

Regional library association, as well as national association development is included in the plan, although the definition of region may not coincide with IFLA’s definition. The Workgroup felt more effort needs to be placed in working with the ALP, the Regional Sections and Division 8. Before submitting the final plan, they will look at the information gathered in our Open Session for possible revisions to the *Strategic Plan*.

13. *MLAS Section Review*

Secretary Arlene Cohen wrote a draft and distributed it to the Standing Committee for review. They were asked to provide comments to incoming Secretary Jill Martin, who will then revise it and send it out for approval.

14. Status report on the *World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)*

Tuula Haavisto continues to work as IFLA’s professional lobbyist in preparation for both the Pre-conference to the WSIS Summit in Alexandria, Egypt, November 10-11, 2005; followed by the WSIS Summit in Tunis on November 16-18, 2005. Winnie Vitzansky announced that the Danish Library Association has a seat in the Danish Government’s delegation. Everyone was encouraged to lobby through their national government’s WSIS delegations to promote libraries and information literacy.

15. Status report on the *IFLA Relief and Development Partnership* and *IFLA’s Three Pillars*

Alex Byrne discussed the *Partnership* proposal and encouraged donations. He also discussed IFLA’s *Three Pillars* document saying it was a way to describe IFLA and its’ priorities. IFLA will now attempt to align their business practices with these priorities. He also is planning to ask the IFLA Governing Board to establish an IFLA Statutes Review.

16. Status report on the *New Professionals Discussion Group*

Loida Garcia-Febo, one of the conveners of the MLAS supported discussion group reported their successful Open Session, *New Professionals, New Experiences and New Ways of Working* drew approximately 90 people. There was a lot of interaction between the participants during the session. Many people attended who were just interested in the work of the group, as well as those new to the profession. One of the biggest topics discussed was job exchanges and how IFLA could take a role in implementing an international job exchange project.

It was felt that the group needed a platform of their own and will approach IFLA with some ideas of how to move forward. They also have set up a listserv that has over 400 subscribers.

17. MLAS Open Session paper for possible submission to the IFLA Journal

Keith Fiels and Jill Martin agreed to handle this.

18. IFLA 2006 Seoul Conference Planning

IFLA HQ is asking all sections to send out a *Call for Papers* for Open Session papers presented at the IFLA 2006 Seoul Conference. The group discussed the topic of advocacy as a theme for the Open Session, and working together on the program with the Asia/Oceania Regional Section Keith Fiels will contact them and begin planning.

19. MLAS 2006 Mid-year meeting in Zagreb, Croatia

Edita Bacic reported that she and the Croatian Library Association are beginning to make plans for the mid-year meeting. The group decided the date will be February 16-17, 2006 and Edita will send out more information. Keith Fiels will invite Peter Lor, the new IFLA Secretary General to attend this meeting.

20. Other business, reports and announcements

Sinikka Sipilä announced the draft UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity (formerly called the International Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions) is now available, noting that there are issues addressed in the Convention related to libraries. UNESCO will vote in October 2005 and she asked that the MLAS and library associations support it in any way they can.

Winnie Vitzansky invited the MLAS to the Danish Library Association's 100th anniversary, being celebrated November 25, 2005 in Copenhagen.

21. Adjournment

Tore Andersen, on behalf of the IFLA 2005 National Organizing Committee and the Norwegian Library Association, warmly thanked everyone for coming to Oslo. Jennefer Nicholson moved for a formal vote of thanks to Tore and the Norwegian Library Association for the wonderful

“Get Together” reception they hosted on Saturday evening, just before the Conference began. The group heartily agreed and the motion passed.

Jennefer Nicholson moved and Carla Funk seconded a motion for a formal vote of appreciation and thanks to Arlene Cohen, the MLAS Standing Committee Secretary. Arlene began serving as Secretary in 1998 when the MLAS was still the Roundtable for the Management of Library Association and has seen many changes during this time. She was commended for her conscientious and skillful recording of these events throughout the years, and her commitment, drive and invaluable support to MLAS officers and members. The group wholeheartedly agreed and the motion passed.

The Chair then expressed his appreciation to the MLAS Standing Committee for their hard work and dedication to the MLAS.

The meeting was adjourned on Friday, August 19, 2005 at 10:50 a.m.

Arlene Cohen, MLAS SC Secretary

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/index.htm>