

# **IFLA Section on Science and Technology Libraries Standing Committee**

## **Minutes of meetings held at the 66th IFLA General Conference, Jerusalem**

***SC I Saturday, 12 August 2000, 8:30 - 11:50, Room 314, Binyanei  
Ha'Ooma***

***SC II Friday 18 August 2000, 10:30 - 12:15, Room 314, Binyanei  
Ha'Ooma***

### **Attendees**

Nancy Anderson, USA  
Diane Ebro, USA  
Rivkah Frank, Israel  
Julia Gelfand, USA  
Marianne Nordlander, Sweden (SC II)  
Dave Price (Secretary), UK  
Philippe Raccah, France (SCII)  
Helga Schwarz, Germany  
Mette Stockmarr, Denmark  
Patricia Yocum (Chair), USA

### **Observers**

Daisy Dalisay, Philippines (SC II)  
Melissa Lamont, USA (SC II)  
Jean Poland, USA (SC I)  
Annie Gachon, France (SC I&II)  
Matjaz Zaucer, Slovenia (SC II)

***SC I Saturday, 12 August 2000, 8:30 - 11:20, Room 314, Binyanei  
Ha'Ooma***

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

Patricia Yocum welcomed those attending and members introduced themselves.

#### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

The prepared agenda was accepted.

#### **3. Approval of 1999 minutes**

The minutes of SC meetings in Bangkok had been distributed electronically and paper copies were available in Jerusalem. They were approved.

#### 4. Approval of 1998-99 Annual Report

This is pending. It is believed that a call for annual reports was not issued. Patricia Yocum will ensure that one is written for the archives.

#### 5. Approval of financial statement

The Financial Report for October 1 1999 – June 30 2000 and the Proposed Administrative Budget 2000 were presented by Patricia Yocum and approved. (Note that the IFLA financial year runs October 1 - September 30.) The prospective administrative funds balance to September 30 2000 is \$700.27. Patricia Yocum proposed using some of the surplus to employ student labour to assist with the administration and this received general support. Nancy Anderson suggested that the surplus could also be used to assist STL-SC member, Dilmani Warnasuriya's attendance at the Boston conference. A proposal will be formulated and discussed on our listserv.

#### 6. Report from the Coordinating Board of Division II, Special Libraries

The Chair, Hans-Christoph Hobohm, had changed the normal agenda in which sections gave detailed accounts of their activities, asking them to report briefly on two main issues or activities with which they were concerned, and to circulate copies of their newsletters.

- The CB Chair reported on Professional Board meetings and discussion of two important papers: "IFLA's Professional Priorities" (PB-DOC.00-67/EB-DOC-00.92) and "Raising Standards in IFLA Conference Papers" (PB-DOC.00.42R. Most points did not concern Special Libraries directly. A major issue is that attendance at conferences is mostly senior librarians. As margins are too small to provide the incentive of significant discounts, the PB considers the best way to attract younger people is to improve the conference quality. Discussion has centred around how this can be achieved. Feedback from Sections is requested as the CB's response may be critical.
- Section newsletters are important to membership but are often issued too irregularly to be effective. Sections have been invited to submit copies of their newsletters for a contest to be judged by the Chair of the PB. IFLA HQ is to issue guidelines for publishing Newsletters
- IFLA has established a new staff post at HQ to be responsible for new members and ensuring there is a mechanism for informing sections of new members.
- Current figures were released for membership of the Sections of Division II, Special Libraries (see Appendix). Sci-Tech had dropped from 118 to 110. We have no information about who has left. Two questions were raised. Do we know the identities of the people associated with IFLA in the member institutions? What is IFLA's position with respect to personal membership?
- To date, 1,600 delegates (including 300 Israelis) had registered for this year's conference.
- The CB is currently allocated 600 Guilders per unit, i.e. 3,600 Guilders p.a. for projects and can award up to 3,000 Guilders for a single project. Bids for more than this go to the PB.
- The electronic version of Inspel, the journal of the Special Libraries Division, has a new URL: <http://inspel.ifla.org>. Proceedings of SLA's Global 2000 Conference (Brighton, UK, 16-19 October 2000) will be published in Inspel. A special issue on the theme of Digital Libraries has been proposed for which editors are invited.

#### 7. Proposed revisions of *IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure*

These are available on the web. An important change for STL-SC would be to require only one nomination for appointment to standing committees, which would make nominations easier. Voting delegates are encouraged to vote as there is a danger Council will not be quorate.

#### 8. Planning reports on Section Programs in Jerusalem

- Sci-Tech Open Session Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August, 15:30-18:00 "*Managing Science Libraries in an Increasingly Digital Environment*". (Julia Gelfand)  
The session format and order of presentations were agreed. A pink flyer had been prepared and the session would be posted in *IFLA Express*. Helga Schwarz was commended for translating the papers. Annie Gachon offered to translate into Spanish. There was detailed discussion about the pros and cons of placing full papers on IFLANET before the conference. It was agreed that full papers should not be posted more than three weeks in advance and that authors should be asked if they give permission for such pre-publication.

- Sci-Tech Study Tour Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August to University of Haifa and the Technion, Haifa. (Rivkah Frank)

It appeared that the conference organizers had confused this with Library visits and had been issuing tickets. The meeting was adjourned while Rivkah Frank and Patricia Yocum investigated. A pink flyer had been prepared.

## 9. Planning Section programs for Boston 16-25 August 2001 “Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age”.

The Chair proposed that it is best if those arranging programs be selected at least two years in advance. She invited volunteers by circulating a roster for the next four conferences and a list of possible topics.

- Open Session - There have already been 3 offers of papers
- Study Tour - Nancy Anderson has commenced planning. She proposes a visit to a corporate library in the morning and the Digital Laboratory at MIT in the afternoon. Harvard is a possibility if MIT is unable to receive us. As a member of the US Organizing Committee, she invited suggestions for library visits.

The Chair introduced the notion of a committee structure for the Standing Committee to spread the workload. As in other areas of professional life, we are experiencing increased workloads. She envisages that her successors as Chair should act as managers rather than doing all the work, and she circulated a Yellow Paper, “Prospective Review of the Standing Committee on Science & Technology Libraries: Potential Aspects to Review”.

## ***SC II Friday 18 August 2000, 10:30 - 12:15, Room 314, Binyanei Ha'Ooma***

### Update on item 6

It has been proposed that conference costs might in future be banded according to the UN model. They would be raised for Band 1 countries, kept the same for Band 2 and reduced for Band 3. It has been reported that IFLA is working with Sun Microsystems to underwrite the costs of bringing members from countries that are Band 3. Nancy Anderson was concerned that this might conflict with the approach from the US Organizing Committee to Sun for much the same for the Boston conference.

Nancy Anderson proposed that the STL-SC pledge up to \$400 or the registration fee for one Band 3 SC member. It was noted that the conference fee could prevent members from other Bands from attending, and perhaps criteria to help determine who could qualify for such support should be developed. Mette Stockmarr noted that the DANIDA Travel Grant does not provide for SC members as it assumes they are funded. It was agreed to report to the CB that funding conference attendance is a real and serious issue and to propose that we can use Section money for this purpose.

### Update on 7

Sunday's Council Meeting was quorate; the proposed revisions were passed and IFLA is now operating under the new rules. The Executive Board intends modernizing IFLA and is moving to a more inclusive and less hierarchical structure, with more planned activities. As regards SC membership, only one nomination is now needed.

## 23. New Business

- Call for nominations for Committee Membership 2001-2005 and a Review of the Standing Committee.

The deadline for nominations is December 1 2000 and Diane Ebro has agreed to oversee and coordinate them. All members of the SC were requested to contribute suggestions. Of the 6 members whose appointments are expiring, only Marianne Nordlander is sure she will wish to renew. The balance of representation from different countries was examined. It was suggested that IFLA's Professional Coordinator, Sjoerd Koopman, could be asked to assist.

## 9. Planning Section programs for Boston 16-25 August 2001 “Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age” (Continued)

- Open Session  
The proposed theme “Pressing the Agenda for Science Literacy” would build on the general theme. Life-long education could be a sub-theme. Ideas were floated and it was agreed to discuss these as a matter of high priority on the SC listserv.

## 13. Follow-up reports on Section (and others’) programs in Jerusalem

- Sci-Tech Open Session Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August, 15:30-18:00 *“Managing Science Libraries in an Increasingly Digital Environment”*. (Julia Gelfand)

More than 90 people attended the session which was subjectively at least generally regarded to have been a resounding success. Julia Gelfand was thanked for having organized it. Evaluation forms had been collected. These have not been studied yet but there is an early indication that in future there would be interest in exploring the relevance of Sci-Tech to the developing world.

- Sci-Tech Study Tour Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August to University of Haifa and the Technion, Haifa (Rivkah Frank).

As reported above, the Organizing Committee had confused the study tour with a library visit with the result that it was over-subscribed. To resolve this, an additional coach was supplied, the study tour was limited to the Technion and those expecting a library visit, visited the University of Haifa. In the event, the study tour comprising 45 people went smoothly and the sessions, food and hospitality organized by staff of the Technion were all at the very highest level. Rivkah Frank was thanked for having organized it.

- Division II, Special Libraries Open Session “Digital Authenticity” (Dave Price)  
There had been two interesting and contrasting papers. Attendance and discussion suggested that the CB had been far-sighted in the selection of this topic which is likely to become extremely important to librarians in the future.

- IATUL Conference, Brisbane July 2000 (Marianne Nordlander)

Marianne Nordlander reported on this conference at which there were 200 delegates from 19 countries. The main issues under discussion were Digital Libraries and Information Literacy. She will email members the URL. IATUL is trying to extend its membership which is personal rather than insitutional. At present it has no members from South America. Michael Breaks has been elected as the new President. The 20<sup>th</sup> conference will be in Delft, Netherlands, 28 May – 1 June 2001 on the theme “The Future of Libraries in Human Communication”.

## 19. Adjournment

Pressure of time precluded discussion of all agenda items and in particular, the Chair’s Yellow Paper, “Prospective Review”, which was circulated at SC I. They will be discussed in the coming year via the listserv.

*Dave Price, Secretary.*

<b><i>Appendix: Overview of Membership for the Sections of Division II, Special Libraries</i></b>	
04 Section of Government Libraries	90
05 Section of Social Science Libraries	86
06 Section of Geography and Map Libraries	49
07 Section of Science and Technology Libraries	110
28 Section of Biological and Medical Libraries	71
30 Section of Art Libraries	96