

**IFLA Section on Science and Technology Libraries Standing Committee  
Minutes of meetings held at the 68<sup>th</sup> IFLA general Conference, Glasgow**

*SC I Saturday, 17 August 2002, 8:30-11:20, Room City Inn 1, City Inn  
SC II Friday, 23 August 2002, 10:15-12:15, Room City Inn 1, City Inn*

**Attendees**

Jan Companjen, Netherlands  
Julia Gelfand (Chair), USA  
Olga Lavrik, Russia  
Ingar Lomheim, Norway  
Marianne Nordlander, Sweden  
Irma Pasanen (Secretary), Finland  
Philippe Raccach, France  
Tovah Reis, USA  
Raymond Schwartz, USA  
Werner Stephan, Germany  
Mette Stockmarr, Denmark  
Andrei Zemskov, Russia

**Observers**

Anna-Marie Arnold, South Africa (SC I, SC II)  
Fiona Ainsworth (SC II)

**Special Advisors**

Helga Schwarz, Germany (SC II)  
Patricia Yocum (SC I)

**Apologies**

Rafayel Harutyunyan, Armenia  
Jean Poland, USA  
Rivkah Frank, Israel  
Dilmani Warnasuriya, Sri Lanka

*SC I Saturday, 17 August 2002, 8:30-11:20, Room City Inn 1, City Inn*

**1. Welcome and introduction**

Chair Julia Gelfand welcomed those attending and members and observers introduced themselves. Regrets had been received from Rivkah Frank, Rafayel Harutyunyan, Jean Poland and Dilmani Warnasuriya.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

The prepared agenda was accepted. The adjoining documents distributed to the attendees were introduced.

**3. Approval of Minutes from Boston Meeting 2001.**

The minutes of SC meetings held in Boston had also been available via IFLANET and paper copies were distributed in Glasgow meeting. The minutes were approved.

#### **4. Approval of Financial Statement.**

The financial report October 1, 2001 – August 1, 2002 was approved and the prospective administrative budget 2002 was presented by the Chair and approved. The balance on hand August 1, 2002 \$ 1912.95 includes the funds of the Needs Assessment Project, the status of which will be discussed in more detail later during the meeting when Patricia Yocum will join the group.

#### **5. Review of IFLA 2001- Boston**

The feedback and session attendance of the Boston open session and workshop were discussed. There is serious concern about preserving documentation from the sessions. IFLANET policy restricts the proceedings to formal papers only. The growing tendency among the speakers of timely issues to be in favour of PowerPoint presentations rather than formal papers. The inclusion of the PowerPoint presentations to the section newsletter was seen as a solution to the problem at this point.

#### **6. Review of IFLA 2002- Glasgow**

Julia Gelfand made a few announcements concerning the scheduling of the sessions. Julia Gelfand expressed her concern about the industry update featuring Elsevier chief executive officer which was scheduled to coincide with the section open session. Furthermore, the unpunctual starting times of sessions was of some concern. For the Berlin conference it has been announced that the overall length of the sessions may be 2 hours in contrast to the current 2,5 hours.

- The Section IFLA Booth Duty is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 August 2002. from 10.00-11.00 Ingar Lomheim and Irma Pasanen volunteered to participate.
- Open Session. "Negotiating with friends of foes: Licencing Sci-Tech Digital Resources – the Selection, Archiving & Access for External Users". Tuesday, 20 August 2002, 11.10-13.40, room Boisdale. Raymond Schwartz reported on the programme and speakers.
- Study Tour. Science and Technology Libraries Study Tour to Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh. Thursday, 22 August 2002. Marianne Nordlander reported on the registrations: 42 registrations received from 17 different countries and thus the workshop is fully booked. The announcement concerning the verified transportation schedule will be made via the SECC workshop bulletin board and effort will be made to have an announcement in the IFLA Express as well. The University Librarian Mr. Michael Breaks has prepared an interesting site visit and a light lunch will be provided for the participants. The study tour will end at 14.30 and a bus will take the group then to Edinburgh center.

#### **7. Review of Coordinating Board of Division II, Special Libraries**

Julia Gelfand and Irma Pasanen attended the CB I Meeting on Friday, 16 August 2002. The Chair John Meriton reported the group from the IFLA Professional Board meeting. The Coordinating Board goals and activities were reviewed and the CB supported project, Imageline

status was reported. 2003 will be election year and nominations for the next term should be done in October. The Professional Committee (or The Governing Board?) has discussed the shortening of the length of the sessions and that of the standing committee II meetings where the Coordinating Board commented that this should be reassessed. Furthermore, strategic plans of the sections should be monitored throughout the year. The IFLA President-elect Kay Raseroka has announced a Presidential Brainstorming Session and a plea for the outreach towards the developing countries has been made. Each section is encouraged to take part in the meetings of the sections belonging to the VIII Division of Regional Activities. Interaction can further be enhanced with regional liaison persons found within the standing committee. It has been announced that at the start of the conference there were 3900 registrants (2200 full-time registrants) from 117 countries. IFLA Express will be published in all official IFLA languages for the first time.

- Anna Marie Arnold from South Africa volunteered to participate in the meeting of African and Julia Gelfand in the Latin American and the Caribbean meetings. Also Tovah Reis and Raymond Schwarz volunteered. They will report back to the standing committee in the SC II meeting.
- The brainstorming workshop will take place on Wednesday, August 21, at 15.30. There is a need for contributors per tables (discussion leaders and note keepers), Raymond Schwarz agreed to participate as a contributor.
- Ingar Lomheim raised the question concerning the general scheduling of the IFLA conferences. The satellite conferences not only prolong the already lengthy conference but may - in their compact format- be more attractive than the whole IFLA conference. Philippe Raccach pointed out that the current length of the conference is becoming a problem. Tovah reviewed the Boston experience regarding the satellite events. It was agreed that this issue must be forwarded to the Governing Board of IFLA.

## **8. Review of the Science and Technology Section**

- The Chair reviewed the current section membership. Judith Palmer, United Kingdom and a standing committee member resigned immediately after Boston due to her other commitments. There has been publicity to attract a new member to the standing committee among the British members of the section members but with little success.
- The Chair reviewed briefly the section activities 2001-2002 and the current status of the Section Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan 2002-2003 is available in IFLANET.
- The section brochure English version has been revised by Jean Poland and Irma Pasanen in 2002. Olga Lavrik volunteered to translate the brochure into Russian, Philippe Raccach into French and Werner Stephan into German language.

- The section newsletter has come out twice a year. The next issue is due in next October and a call for interesting pieces was made by the Chair and the Secretary. The material should be received by the secretary by the end of September. The newsletter is sent in print format to all section members and an electronic version is published on the section website.
- The section website at IFLANET has been kept current with new additions such as the Strategic Plan and the brochure, both in PDF. The maintenance of the site is handled by the IFLA Headquarters whereby also the main headings on the site are decided. IFLANET is now hosted by INIST in France. Members of the standing committee were solicited to use the section mailing list to share information.
- INSPEL, the Official journal of Division II Special Libraries, has a call for material. It was agreed that this year the paper at the open session, Prof. Bérard's article on will be good for INSPEL. Also theme number on science libraries is planned for INSPEL 2003 which Julia Gelfand has agreed to coordinate and edit. Members of the standing committee were encouraged to look contributors to write about current issues in science libraries around the world. for interested persons to write about current issues in science libraries.

The meeting was interrupted at 10.05 for refreshments

The meeting continued at 10.15. with Patricia Yocum having joined the meeting

### **9. Planning Section Programs for Berlin 1-9 August 2003**

Theme: "Access Point Library: Media- Information- Culture"

The section program committee has included Werner Stephan, Rivkah Frank, Jean Poland and Helga Schwarz who has acted as the liaison towards the local organizers. A more detailed discussion is expected during SC II when she will join the meeting.

- A joint open session has been discussed with the health and biomedical libraries section. It was agreed that the session will deal with bioinformatics. The preferred session day will be Tuesday and if non-IFLA speakers are invited their registration must be paid by the section.
- Site Visit/Study Tour has been planned to German geospatial center in Potsdam and preliminary contacts has been established by Helga Schwarz. There is also a new university of applied sciences in Potsdam which could be another place to visit.

### **10. Planning Section Programs for IFLA 2004- Buenos Aires**

The Buenos Aires Conference has been confirmed with the date August 20-27 2004 and with the theme "Libraries, tools for education and development". The chair invited members to volunteer to plan the programme. There was discussion about possible topics including online education, science education and their challenges. The open session speakers could be solicited with a call of papers within IFLA. It was agreed to continue this discussion during SC II.

## 10. STS Project

Title: *Needs Assessment of Sci-Tech Libraries in Less-Developed and Developing Countries*. Patricia Yocum had joined the meeting after the break and reviewed the project:

- The project was initiated before Patricia Yocum's term so the origins and original objectives of the project are a little dim. Originally the project budget was USD 1400 and its scope was not limited to IFLA members. During 2000-2001 a pilot questionnaire was sent out to new section members. It revealed the difficulty to identify a contact persons in libraries and the overall response to the questionnaire was poor. Hence the project is at crossroads now.
- A lively discussion followed the review. It was agreed there is a need to refocus the project plan. A task force within the standing committee was established containing Jan Companjen, Tovah Reis and Raymond Schwarz, Olga Lavrik and Patricia Yocum. They were assigned to discuss matters further with Patricia Yocum, familiarize themselves with the project material and report back to the SC II meeting on Friday.

The Chair moved to conclude the meeting by summarizing the actions to be taken during the conference and prior the SC II meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.20

### *SC II Friday, 23 August 2002, 10:15-12:15, Room City Inn 1, City Inn*

The Chair welcomed the members, observers Fiona Ainsworth and Anna-Marie Arnold, and special advisor Helga Schwarz

#### **Update on item 9. Planning for Berlin 2003**

- Open session

A meeting between Helga Schwarz, Werner Stephan and Julia Gelfand together with the biomedical section had taken place during the conference. A 2-hour open session highlighting local German experts and expertise such as databases and structured searching, virtual libraries and new alliances. One speaker could well represent the medical field. Werner Stephan, Rivkah Frank and Jean Poland will continue and draft an abstract on the intended session together with the biomedical group. Suggested time will be Tuesday afternoon.

- Study tour to Potsdam

This will be on Thursday. It will be a co-sponsored tour (2 buses) together with the biomedical group. The Geodetical Institute will be the

main site to visit and other possible destinations were discussed. It was agreed that it is easier to have several speakers brought on site rather than move the group from one site to another. It was agreed that Jean Poland together with Helga Schwarz will finalize the plans concerning the study tour which includes a bus to and from Potsdam and possibly a guide in the afternoon. Julia Gelfand will draft an abstract for the programme and send it to Werner Stephan with comments from the biomedical group.

#### **Follow-up on item 6. Program of IFLA 2002- Glasgow**

- Open session had 130-140 participants all throughout the session. The feedback from some 30 returned questionnaires was quite positive. All speakers gave their permission to have their presentations distributed via the section newsletter. Andrei Zemskov had been given permission to translate Mr. Cris Rushbridge's presentation into Russian as well.
- Study tour to Heriot-Watt university. Marianne Nordlander had received few last-minute cancellations and thus 37 persons took part. The programme was regarded as very good and interesting.

#### **Follow-up on item 7.**

Reports on standing committee visits to regional groups.

##### South America

- Julia Gelfand and Raymond Schwartz attended. There a very strong emphasis was on the further education of librarians, also within science. This could be followed in the science and technology programme in Buenos Aires. Contact person will be Ray Schwartz.

##### Asia and Oceania

- Tovah Reis took part and reported that the regional group is looking for ways to integrate with other sections and standing committees. As a major problem in the area there is the lack of available training of the librarians. Some countries in the area even lack a library association. Plans include regional training centers for librarians. Another problems relate to information technology issues. IFLA/ALP has in the past been of great help in the area. Tovah Reis concluded that science and technology libraries are not yet represented in the regional group.

#### **Follow-up on item 10.**

The project subcommittee had held a meeting during the conference reported Tovah Reis. The committee came to conclude the following: the scope needs to be redefined and narrowed and work already done in the area needs to be assessed and compiled. There are institutions which may be able to help in this respect such as UNESCO and the British Council. The objective is to have this work completed by Berlin 2003 conference. Tovah Reis will lead the working group which will include: Raymond Schwarz, Olga Lavrik, Jan Companjen, and Patricia Yocum.

#### **11. Report on IFLA PRAC**

Julia Gelfand reported on a small meeting called by Ann Okerson regarding IFLA and publisher relations. The licence agreements, fairness and developing countries had been discussed. A document on these issues will be prepared later this year which will also be shared with the science and technology libraries.

## **12. Reports on activities of related groups**

- IATUL. Marianne Nordlander reported on IATUL (International Association of Technological University Libraries) that had its annual conference 2002 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA in June. A four-day conference with invited keynote speakers and results from a call for papers and a study tour were included. Consortia, partnership and new library services had been discussed. Next IATUL Conference will be held in Ankara 2-5 June 2003.
- SLA. Julia Gelfand reported on SLA (Special Libraries Association, USA) conference and the work of their science and technology section. Collaborative marketing issues had been highlighted during the conference.
- ALA. Julia Gelfand reported on the American Library Association conference held in Atlanta, Georgia. New partnerships that are evolving in the library scene had been discussed. Julia Gelfand informed the group about another interesting community, ELD/ASEE the conference of which unfortunately collides with that of ALA.
- LIBER. Philippe Raccach reported on the LIBER (European Research Library Association) Conference held in Rome, Italy in June.

The Chair encouraged the group to submit small pieces and articles for the upcoming newsletter in order to disseminate further the information concerning these timely issues and activities.

## **13. Communication Issues**

The content for newsletter was discussed. It was agreed that the newsletter should include the missing three biographical notes of the standing committee, a layout of the Berlin programme, short liaison reports. Ray Schwartz will also report on the president-elect brainstorming session where some 200 people had attended. Also news from IFLANET will be included.

## **14. Move to Adjourn**

The Chair reviewed the agreed issues and schedules. The meeting was adjourned at 12 o'clock.