**MLAS Standing Committee Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**SC II**

**Time:** Tuesday, 16 August 2016, 09.45-11.15

**Venue:** C 223, Greater Columbus Convention Centre, 400 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

**Participants:**

**MLAS SC members:**

Barbara Schleihagen (chair), Kelly Moore (secretary), Randa Al Chidiac, Judy Brooker, Michael Dowling (information coordinator), Alim Garga, Susan Haigh, Marian Koren (treasurer), Janice Lachance, Marijana Misetic, José-Maria Nogales Herrera, Alicia Ocaso, Jukka Relander, Pascal Sanz, Mariann Schjeide, Silvia Stasselová, Sabine Stummeyer

***Ex officio* members:**

María Violetta Bertolini (NPSIG convenor), Mathilde Koskas (WILSIG convenor)

**Observers:**

Abeer Al-Kuwari, J. Fleur Bella Assen, Simon Berney-Edwards, Vincent Bonnet, Anna Chulyan, Aminata Dao, Khaled Elhalaby, Simon Engitu, Koui Constance Gbeuly, Gita Girithapa, Dalia Gohary, Jóna Guðmundsdóttir, Kristjana Mjöll Hjörvar, Amandine Jacquet, Alina Jaskuniene, Lynn Jibril, Mathilda Johnson, Mahmoud Khalifa, Rauha Maamo, Chris Mefford, Rose B. Okiy, Joanna Pasztaleniec-Jarzynska, Hloele Phafoli, Nick Poole, Dina Rakotondrainibe, Anne-Mary Robert, Katia Röthlin, Hassan M. Saafi, Daisy St. Rose, Beba Stanković, Elzbieta Stefanczyk, Corrado Di Tillio, Antoine Torrens, Milan Vasiljević, Joan Wee

**IFLA HQ:**

Karoline Andersdotter

**Apologies:**

Maria Cotera, Niclas Lindberg, Hans Ulrich Locher

Barbara welcomed colleagues to the second meeting, and expressed thanks to Michael for organizing the outing to the baseball game the previous evening.

A list of library associations which have not paid their IFLA membership dues was circulated to SC members. Anyone in contact with individuals from those associations was encouraged to ask those association them to get in touch with IFLA HQ.

**13. MLAS Communication:**

1. **MLAS Information Coordinator’s report (Michael Dowling)**

Michael presented that, based on the discussion at the SC I meeting where we heard about the mapping project and the involvement of national associations in that work, it would be helpful for the MLAS to start to create a new list of national associations to capture what we already know, and have this information included on the map. We will need to determine what information about library associations we would want to include. Barbara agreed with this approach, noting that a similar discussion had taken place on the suggestion by Marian with a small group yesterday.

A group was formed to work on this: **Marian, Pascal, Michael, Alicia, and Amandine**.

**Action:** Group to determine what data elements about library associations should be captured and (and later used also by HQ for the work of the IFLA map)

**Timeline:** by November 2016

1. **MLAS social media activities (Niclas Lindberg, Mariann Schjeide)**

Barbara reported that Niclas had agreed last year to take on the task of maintaining the Section’s social media, but he has changed jobs and is for private reasons unable to be here. If he is no longer able to continue with this work, Mariann is willing to take this over. Leaders of the NPSIG can provide us with best practices from their experiences.

**Action:** **Barbara** will find out if Niclas is willing to continue and will then liaise with Mariann.

**Action:** **Mariann** will find out if Niclas has launched a Facebook group; if not she will launch it and encourage SC and association members to join.

**Action:** There will be a Skype call in September with **Mariann, Michael, Maria Violetta from NPSIG, Kelly and Barbara** to move this forward.

**Action: Niclas or Mariann** to coordinate social media activities, and inform MLAS members of the places to join.

**Timeline:** initial group call in September 2016, and then implement social media presence.

1. **Special Interest Groups update:**
2. **New Professionals Special Interest Group (Maria Violetta Bertolini)**

Maria Violetta stated that a written report was submitted, and has been posted to the NPSIG blog. The SIG has established new objectives with their action plan. One of the main highlights from the past year was the New Librarians Global Connections webinar series (in cooperation with ALA and CPDWL). The Big Data webinar attracted more than 100 participants. Webinar topics are drawing interest from outside the library community – she noted that hash tags were re-tweeted many times.

The SIG’s session in Columbus focused on failing in your library career. They have launched a call for feedback, and people can send their own failure experiences. All information about the session has been distributed in multiple languages.

Immediately prior to the Congress, the NPSIG IFLACamp was held in Dublin, Ohio; it was hosted by OCLC and attracted 12 attendees. At the congress, the SIG organized a new social event at the same location as the IFLA nightspot.

Maria Violetta noted that they are working to have a new leadership team in place for the SIG for next year. The group holds virtual meetings throughout the year, and they maintain a presence on a variety of social media. In 2016 they conducted a survey to recruit volunteers; in the coming year they will have two more surveys: one on new professionals and students (with SET), and one for NPSIG activists. The

SIG will work to align their activities better with IFLA’s key initiatives.

Barbara thanked Maria Violetta and her team for their excellent work which is outstanding and very inspiring also for MLAS.

1. **Women, Information and Libraries Special Interest Group (Mathilde Koskas)**

Mathilde reported that the SIG started last year with a new leadership team. They have a new action plan, cantered around three topics: women in IT; women in conflicts; and communications to increase the SIG’s reach and influence.

The SIG held a satellite meeting in 2016 at North-western University in Chicago, in cooperation with the Information Technology Section. Using the unconference format, the 40 attendees had a full day of discussions. They will have their open session on Thursday to discuss what people expect from and what they can contribute to the group.

The group maintains activities throughout the year using social media and Base camp. Efforts are being made to keep all documents current to make a smoother transition with the next leadership team. They are looking for a host location for a 2017 satellite meeting.

Barbara thanked Mathilde for keeping the SIG also so vibrant.

1. **What makes a dynamic IFLA Professional Unit? (Barbara Schleihagen, Kelly Moore)**

Barbara commented that the two SIGs had just provided evidence of what makes a dynamic professional unit. She indicated that we will have only a brief discussion on this today, as time is short. HQ sent a document to all professional units seeking input on what makes a dynamic group. Barbara and Kelly made a start with the document, and distributed it to the SC members prior to this meeting. There were no further comments. Michael agreed take our contribution to the session on this topic tomorrow.

1. **Draft MLAS Annual Report August 2015-2016 and Action Plan August 2016-2017 (Barbara Schleihagen, Kelly Moore)**

Barbara explained that the draft Annual Report was initially discussed at the mid-term meeting. IFLA has changed the reporting year from August to August to fit with the terms of section leaders. All SC members have received a copy of the current draft prior to the meeting and were asked to add any missing activities.

**Action:** The final version of the report must be submitted to IFLA HQ by the end of October. **Barbara and Kelly** to send the report on time.

One addition noted was the change in SC membership, with Gerald leaving and Hans Ulrich joining the committee as the candidate with the highest number of votes among those who did not make it to the first 20 candidates that became SC members.

There was some discussion of the increasing amount of work being requested of Sections by HQ, and whether the information gathered was being used. Barbara assured that the information being collected is taken very seriously by PC, and that they are open to suggestions to improve the process.

There were questions regarding the types of activities undertaken by MLAS members which should be recorded in the Section’s annual report. Some members are active in other IFLA groups and programmes and in their national capacity, and it can be difficult to distinguish which work is relevant to report via the MLAS. Barbara acknowledged that clarification may be needed from HQ, but that members should submit information on any of their international activities. Marian noted that anyone from our group attending regional activities planned by HQ should be encouraged to report on those activities to MLAS. It should not just be left to the regional offices or regional sections to report.

The draft Action Plan was also distributed to SC members prior to the meeting.

**Action:** It was noted that **Kelly** adds the survey which had been agreed earlier in the meeting.

Members were encouraged to send thoughts by email on other actions for the coming year. The final version of the plan needs to be received by HQ at the end of October.

**Action:** members to submit any additional activities for the 2015-2016 annual report and 2016-2017 action plan as soon as possible; **Barbara and Kelly** to submit final documents to HQ

**Timeline:** by end October 2016

1. **Plans for midterm meeting Spring 2017: venue and programme (Barbara Schleihagen)**

Barbara noted that our Section has had very good experiences combining our mid-term meeting with other events, particularly with BSLA trainings. Our opportunity for 2017 is to combine with the President’s meeting, in March/April in Athens. There will also be a workshop of all IFLA officers to define the vision for IFLA for the coming years, as mentioned by Gerald at SC I. So although we have been in Athens very recently, it was suggested that we go with Athens. No other options were put forward, so members agreed that we pursue Athens. Exact timing will be determined once the dates for the other meetings are set. Marian noted that we should make an extra effort to get associations in that region to participate, given the current political and social situation.

**Action: Barbara** to establish dates and the programme for the mid-term meeting in Athens, once the dates for the President’s meeting and IFLA officers meeting have been set

**Timeline:** as soon as possible

1. **The Polish Librarians Association: achievements and current issues (Joanna Pasztaleniec-Jarzynska, Elzbieta Stefanczyk, Stowarzyszenie Bibliotekarzy Polskich / Polish Librarians Association)**

Joanna thanked Barbara for the opportunity to make a brief presentation. 2017 will be the 100th anniversary of the Polish Librarians Association. They were a founding member of IFLA, and previously hosted IFLA conferences in 1936 and 1959. It is the one comprehensive association for the country, with 7000 members, a permanent office with paid staff, and publishing house. The library community works closely with academics in other disciplines. The association has a long-term strategy for the period 2010-2021. They organize and inspire many events, including library week, cool librarian bike ride, librarian of the year, and a forum of young librarians. They look forward to welcoming everyone to Wrocław in 2017.

**Action:** A copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be sent **by Kelly** with the minutes and will be made available on the MLAS web page on the IFLA site **by Michael**.

Barbara thanked Joanna and Elzbieta for the presentation, and noted that we all look forward to learning more from our colleagues in Poland next year.

1. **Plans for IFLA conference 19-25 August 2017 in Wrocław, Poland (Barbara Schleihagen)**

Barbara indicated that topics had already been considered at the mid-term meeting; there were ideas about a role for library associations working with civil society. This was a popular topic also with colleagues in the LAC region when we discussed it; the concepts of partnerships and solidarity are in line with the conference theme of “Libraries. Solidarity. Society.” It was suggested that we could link this topic to the UN2030 agenda, since it is also related to civil society. Barbara suggested that we do an open call for papers, as we haven’t done that in many years, and it may open input from groups that we do not usually get the chance to work with.

**Jukka, Randa, Marijana, Judy, Barbara, and Kelly** will form the group to put out the call and review the submissions. **Janice** will advise the group and supply her “lessons learned” from the last time we worked with an open call.

**Action:** group todefine the topic for the MLAS session in Wrocław and draft a call for papers

**Timeline:** end of October 2016

1. **Standing Committee nomination and election process**

Barbara briefly outlined the election process for the Section, noting that we have a list of members who have to leave the committee as they completed two terms, those who can continue as they have served only two of four years, and those who are eligible for re-election.

Leaving in 2017: Silvia, Janice, Kelly, Barbara

Eligible for re-election: Jukka, Randa, Maria

Everyone else continues to 2019.

HQ will send information in October 2016 to solicit nominations; elections will take place in early 2017.

1. **Any other business**

Barbara recognized and thanked Marian Koren for all of her many years of work for libraries and library associations around the world; she will be retiring from her position at FOBID at the end of 2016. Everyone joined in the applause.

Marian acknowledged that she is not setting a good example by leaving the committee before her term is over. She will still be available as a volunteer, but noted that it is time to make room for others. She emphasized that MLAS is not just a professional unit of IFLA – we are the VIPs. IFLA expects a lot from us as associations. She is confident that with a strong group, no one will be left behind. Marian thanked everyone for sharing the world of libraries with her.

1. **Closing remarks (Barbara Schleihagen)**

Barbara expressed thanks to everyone for coming and participating in the meeting.

**For the minutes:**

Barbara Schleihagen, chair Kelly Moore, secretary