



Newsletter

IFLA Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities Section

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Editor:

Minna von Zansen
Joint Information Coordinator,
IFLA LPD
Celia, Finland
minna.vonzansen@celia.fi

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www.ifla.org/en/lpd

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Word of Hello & Goodbye from the Outgoing Chair of the Section

Hello to all you hardworking, bright and committed members of our section. Our mission, to provide equitable library services for people who cannot read print is still very much to the point and needed. I do not need to remind you of that. Nor of the progress we are making in awareness raising and working with publishers and copyright authorities. Think about the emergence of the ePUB3 standard, the endeavours of the Accessible Book Consortium (ABC), or the continuing lobby of IFLA and WBU on the adoption of Marrakech Treaty. We are getting encouraging reports from WBU on the increasing number of countries that are implementing the Marrakech Treaty. With the recent ratification of Mexico end of July, there are now nine countries on the [WIPO list](#), meaning we need (only?) eleven more to get the Treaty in force. Please keep pushing your congressperson or Member of Parliament to help the Treaty forward in your country and keep working for a fair and modernised copyright exception. Exchanging accessible books across borders is a great step forward and can definitely help to alleviate the

book famine by sharing. We all agree on that one.

There are other important legal and political documents in force that help our cause forward. Have a look at the UN Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities ([UNCRPD](#)) on the inclusion in public, political and cultural life (Art. 9, 24, 29 & 30). And have a look at definition 2 where the key word '*reasonable accommodation*' is defined. Remember that denial of this reasonable accommodation is considered to be a form of discrimination and a ground for appealing to your national committee that looks after the effective implementation of the UNCRPD.

You may have heard that IFLA has successfully influenced the post-2015 UN agenda, by including the importance of *literacy* in the sustainable development goals or SDG's. It is expected that these post-2015 SDG's will be adopted by the UN at their summit in New York on 25-27 September. That is good news and a definite challenge to our committee. We need to show that without accessibility there cannot be literacy for the people we represent. We should be able come up with concrete good examples how we are working on that. A meeting with the Reading and Literacy section might well be worthwhile. Let's keep thinking on

possible projects we can do together on this subject!

Now it is time to say goodbye and make room for new people. It has been a pleasure serving on the committee of LPD for a full two terms. And I thank you all for your support and trust. I have gained new insights, made new friends and grew even more convinced about the importance of accessibility and inclusion. Isn't there a saying about old soldiers, how they do not die, but fade. I am not quite sure what is meant by that, but I can relate to the not-dying part (I survived!) and the fading part?... Well, stepping down from the committee does not mean losing the connection to you or the IFLA network. I treasure it. I am certain the ongoing committee with seven (!) new member will be more than able to find new and well qualified officers and continue the work. And yes, if needed (if not when) I will keep supporting the work of the committee by sharing knowledge and staying in touch.

Koen Krikhaar, Manager, Library Services, Dedicon, The Netherlands. LPD Chair.

IFLA WLIC 2015 LPD Cape Town Conference Program Full of Variety and Practical Experience

The theme for the Conference Program selected by a working group of the LPD Standing Committee is: The inclusive library: How to render an inclusive LIS to blind and visually impaired people. Presenters from a variety of organisations will be presenting papers focusing on very practical initiatives implemented by their organisations. Delegates interested in rendering services to blind and visually impaired people will therefore gain practical insight and also be stimulated to implement some of these innovative initiatives at their organisations.

Luc Maumet from the Association Valentin Haüy in France will present a paper addressing various solutions to improve access to reading through the use of audio books with human voice or text to speech. The Association has always produced audio book with human narration. Two years ago they started with the production of two years ago to the have started to produce and distribute audio books with text to speech. This presentation will discuss pros and cons of this two forms of audio-books in a situation of leisure

reading. It will indicate how the two formats complement each other and will present the conclusions of a satisfaction survey conducted among the audio-books users of AVH library.

Kirsi Yläne from the Celia Library in Finland will be talking about Finnish accessibility guidelines for Public Libraries. She will share an initiative between Celia Library, Helsinki and Espoo City Libraries, Finnish Library Association, Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities and other expert organisations to develop accessibility guidelines. The guidelines include information on strategic planning and leadership to library services, space, content and activities. The Guidelines are short, concrete and practical guidelines, aimed at public libraries. Their aim is to help public libraries create and offer accessible services to a range of different user needs.

Karen Keninger from the National Library Service in the USA will talk about the possibilities when establishing a Volunteer Braille Transcription Program. She will share how a great deal of braille transcription is done by volunteer in the United States. The key factor is training and once these volunteers have been trained they produce excellent braille for use by students and libraries. Her

presentation will discuss ideas for recruiting volunteers, establishing a volunteer training program, and low-tech and high-tech methods for transcription and embossing suitable for volunteers.

Eli Frisvold and Ingvild Aanensen from the Norwegian Library of Talking Books and Braille in Norway presentation will be an very innovative initiative which is a writing camp for visually impaired young people. The Norwegian Library of Talking Books (NLB) has arranged writing camps biannually since the launch in 2005, totalling five camps to date. The camps last a week, and are partially financed by contributions from private foundations and bequests. NLB's writing camps provide a practical opportunity for the visually impaired to participate in a writing course, and the camp contributes to inclusion, leaving nobody behind in the real enjoyment of sharing the joy and skills in writing literature. Literature means a lot to this group, and many blind people write poems and other forms of literature for the desk drawer.

Neli Kaunda and Pumla Mahanjana from the South African Library for the Blind will talk about how the Library brings library and Information services to the visually impaired persons through the establishment of Minilibraries. The

Library implemented a strategic model to reach out to all visually impaired South African citizens using the minilibrary strategy. Two mini-libraries models will be discussed in the presentation, i.e. Agent mini-libraries and Comprehensive mini-libraries. Management and administration of the services rendered will be covered in detail. The project was pioneered in one of Province and has been so successful that it has been rolled out to other provinces in South Africa. They will highlight how visually impaired people experience in a tangible manner, assistive technologies, training and interaction with their libraries and other community members.

Lastly, a representative from the World Intellectual Property Organisations will share with the audience about the work and impact of the Accessible Book Consortium (ABC) and how it brings books to people with print disabilities. The ABC has been established in 2014 under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organisation in collaboration with Rights holders Authors and Entities servicing blind and visually impaired people. It is one of the direct results after the adoption of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled Treaty during

2013. The presentation will cover the three main projects of the ABC that is Accessible Publishing to assist Publishers to publish their material in accessible formats; Capacity Development which is focussing on assisting least developed and developing countries to establish services to print disabled people and to produce their own material and thirdly the TIGAR Service which is a database of more than 250,000 accessible books in 58 languages available to be shared internationally.

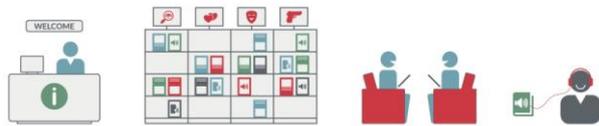
If you are fortunate enough to attend the IFLA Conference in Cape Town please make sure to bookmark the LPD program item scheduled to take place on Tuesday the 17th of August at 10:45 to 12:45.

Francois Hendrikz, Director, SALB.

Revised and Expanded Guidelines for Library Services to Persons with Dyslexia

A Joint Project of the IFLA Sections Library Services to People with Special Needs (LSN) and Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities (LPD)

In December 2014 the Professional Committee and the Governing Body of IFLA approved these guidelines. You may find this final version on [the LSN website](#).



Presentation

At the latest IFLA WLIC in Lyon Helle Mortensen (Lyngby-Taarbaek Bibliotekerne, Denmark) and Saskia Boets (Luisterpuntbibliotheek – public library for persons with print disabilities, Flanders, Belgium) [presented](#) a draft version of the revised and extended “Guidelines for Library Services to Persons with Dyslexia” in the LSN session “Dyslexia? Welcome to our library!” and in the poster sessions. Hundreds of [checklists](#) (an infographic) were picked up.

These Guidelines give attention to:

- the definitions of dyslexia
- the legal background
- the library space and presentation
- marketing in and outside the library
- library staff
- content
- reading devices and assistive technology

They also contain the checklist overviewing useful topics for library staff, best practices from several public and specialized libraries, and

a small knowledge base: a list of reliable and objective sources. The main recommendations of the report are to make a thorough plan, work together with stakeholders and, last but not least, make progress by taking one step at the time.

Translations

The Netherlands and Flanders cooperated for the Dutch translation of Guidelines and checklist. I am happy to announce that this translation is ready, you can find it on the [Luisterpunt website](#), on the [KB website](#), and hopefully soon on the [LSN webpage of IFLA.org](#).

I know some other languages are being prepared. France has already translated the checklist in French and is working on the Guidelines. Also Japan, Finland and Denmark are busy doing translations. The basic file of the checklist is an open file, [I](#) can send it to interested translators.

Finally you are more than welcome to cooperate: please spread the news about these guidelines, try to get a translation in your language, and – above all – implement them in your own library!

And if your library practice is successful in serving persons with dyslexia, please let us know so we can keep the good practices up-to-date. We will also try to keep the knowledge base up-to-date.

Together we make sure that everybody can enjoy our daily library work!



Saskia Boets, co-project leader revised and extended dyslexia guidelines, Head of Communications, Flemish Library for Audio Books and Braille.

Overview of the IFLA WLIC 2014 Paris Post-Conference: “eBooks for Everyone: Creating Inclusive Libraries”

The IFLA WLIC 2014 post-conference « eBooks for Everyone: Creating Inclusive Libraries” was held on August 22-23 2014 in Paris, France. The conference was organized by IFLA LPD Section in cooperation with Brailenet and the UPMC (Université Pierre et Marie-Curie).

The conference focused on the opportunity eBooks represent for building accessible services in libraries.

Three Keynotes speakers gave very impressive speeches: Johanna Brinton (Business development Executive at OverDrive) opened the first session with the point of view of the industry on the challenges in the field of accessibility. She presented the activities of Overdrive for the expansion of epub3 and its accessibility features and how specialized entities such as RNIB, South African Library for the Blind or Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind could cooperate with a leader of the eBook industry.

On the same day Dan Pescod (Campaigns Manager for the Royal National Institute of Blind People in the United Kingdom) presented the campaign led by the World Blind Union over several years to achieve the WIPO "Marrakech Treaty", which was concluded in June 2013. Dan Pescod explained the importance of the treaty and the work still to be done: industry to make its books accessible, work to improve capacity of "authorized entities" and Governments to ratify the Marrakech treaty.

On the second day, in a very inspiring plenary session, Bernard Heinser spoke about a strategy to end the "Book Famine". He explored the challenges in collaboration between "worlds" that are currently separate: the specialized libraries and the

commercial publishers. Bernard Heinser went deep in the technical considerations such as metadata for the description of accessibility or cross border exchange.

The first set of presentations, "What can readers with disabilities expect from eBook technologies", on the first day, was chaired by Koen Krikhaar (Dedicon, Netherlands). Varju Luceno (DAISY Consortium) explained how the DAISY Consortium, in collaboration with Tech For All, have developed Accessibility Screening Guidelines and Checklist that will provide developers and the general public with up-to-date information about assessing eReaders as well as guidance for determining how they will work most effectively for persons with various disabilities. Karen A. Keninger (National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, NLS) presented braille reading eBraille with an iPhone using Voice Dream Reader, the kindle app or NLS Bard Mobile. Immediately after, Mike Wald (University of Southampton), E.A. Draffan and Neil Rogers (University of Southampton) illustrated how they, by combining a group of accessibility standards, guidelines and criteria, evaluated eText accessibility using a single review method. Digital text accessibility and production using ePub was the last subject presented by Jean-Philippe Moreux (French National

On the second day, in the morning, Minna von Zansen (Celia, Finland) chaired "Exploring the Power of Mainstream eBooks for Accessible Reading". Victoria Owen (IFLA) gave the IFLA point of view regarding eBooks in public library. She showed both the technical and legal challenges. Karen A. Keninger (NLS) explained how the National Library Service integrated commercial audiobooks in its offer and how they plan to do the same with eBooks. Cloé Lignoux (Association Valentin Haüy) presented the tests she is conducting with commercial eBooks and a group of visually impaired persons. The last presenter Koen Krikhaar (Dedicon) concluded with a presentation of the situation of eBooks in the Netherlands regarding accessibility. He stated that It might be wise for us, special service providers, to start thinking more about truly inclusive services and how to bring them about.

The second session chaired by Luc Maumet was "Partnerships to Build Inclusive eBook Services". Lisa Söderberg (Swedish Agency for Accessible Media) and Johansson Tomas (Swedish Agency for Accessible Media) spoke about partnership with book publishers in the Swedish context. Hélène Kudzia-Pinto da Silva (Marguerite Duras Media Library, Paris City Libraries) and Alex Bernier (Brailletnet) presented their

specialized libraries. It was well complemented by Janice Hall (Newcastle upon Tyne Library Service), and Anne Curtis (Shoo Fly Publishing) impressive survey on the possibilities to re-engage families in library use with new technologies.

In the afternoon, the second day three sessions chaired by François Hendrikz (South African Library for the Blind, South Africa), Bernhard Heinser (DAISY Consortium), and Vanessa Van Atten (Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, France) explored the delivery of accessible books, the production of books of different complexity levels and the best practices in Public and Academic Libraries.

All presentations (text and slides) are available in English and/or French here:

http://inova.snv.jussieu.fr/ifla-lpd/colloques/colloques/83_index_en.html

This 2014 LP post-conference was a success with a very good attendance and rich exchanges between the participants. The gala dinner at the Paris city hall, with an incredible view on La Seine, was a moment the participants will remember!

Luc Maumet, Responsable Médiathèque, AVH, Paris, France.

Braille Music Research

The musician's profession is one of the oldest professions for blind people. One of the first known documents is the ancient Egyptian relief of the blind harpist. Through the centuries many blind composers and musicians have gained recognition and prominence through their art. They are active in many different genres, classical music, jazz, opera, sacred music or rock music. Artists like Francesco Landini, Maria Theresia Paradis, Lennie Tristano, Andrea Bocelli or Blind Guardian are such representatives, to name just a few.

The tradition of this profession is closely related to the development of the artistic competence of blind musicians. The rapid technological changes that have taken place over the last two decades have led to equally rapid changes in the diversity and availability of music. The technological evolution is also a great chance to develop and refine digital music communication. These changes also mean that people with visual impairment or blindness can use more options for composing, recording and performing their own music than at any time in the past.

The ubiquity of music in everyday life, and the corresponding diversification of musical

behaviour, probably explains why there has been an explosive increase of interest in music education and music communication. These disciplines have expanded and diversified into several sub-disciplines, for example the cognitive or social psychologies of music with their own empirical research foci and practical applications. The focus of this planned music project concentrates on transdisciplinary skills, and so the research includes musicological, pedagogical and communicative aspects.

While language notation primarily functions to carry semantic meaning, the information carrier music notation transports musical ideas and removes instructions for the production of a musical performance. Music reading thus lies at the interface between perception and action, particularly reaction or interaction.

However, no study so far has dealt with the topic of inclusion in this artistic field. Therefore we do not have any relevant data nor research results on how musicians with visual disabilities individually develop and transact their creative ideas. This lack of information motivated me to develop the project idea.

My present focus on musical communication is on the role and

function of music notation, the use of Braille notation as a conventional symbolic system in musical thinking and as a communication modus or medium to develop specific artistic competences and social qualities. One thesis is that the processing of learning and reading Braille music notation is more complex than the processing of reading regular music notation. The major aim of this research is to identify the characteristics of understanding music notation and the practical realization of special forms of creative potential. Within the parameters of the future-oriented target dialogue and interplay of art and science, the changes of perspective and new forms of thought can be explored. Beside raising awareness of perception and behaviour, the project will help to initialize innovative models in music education for young and senior musicians and to improve operating interfaces.

The upcoming music project combines interdisciplinary and intercultural aspects, and so the goal is to establish it as a joint research. The German Library for the Blind will be one of our partners and we are also looking for interested partners abroad to set up this interdisciplinary and intercultural project together.

The research project is installed as a postdoctoral lecture qualification tied to the University of Regensburg. Prof Magnus Gaul, the Chair of music pedagogy, will be the main tutor.

Email: braillemusic@jbally.de

For further information and reading use the following link

<http://www.uni-regensburg.de/philosophie-kunst-geschichte-gesellschaft/musikpaedagogik/musikpaedagogik/>

and navigate to

Musical Communication: Modus Braille.

Juliane Bally, PhD, Universität Regensburg.

Symposium on Barrier-Free Access to Digital Information in Leipzig, Germany

This year's LPD midyear meeting in the DZB Leipzig (German Central Library for the Blind), Germany, was succeeded by a one-day symposium on Barrier-free Access to Digital Information – a topic very dear to our heart. Eleven speakers in total, including some of

the representatives of the IFLA LPD group members, introduced the audience to current projects and new developments in the field of improving accessibility.

After a short welcome address, Koen Krikhaar summarized the work of the LPD group and their aims and mission. Next up was Elke Dittmer, chair of the Medibus-Verbund, a collaboration of German-speaking libraries for the Blind from Germany, Switzerland and Austria, who explained the somewhat complicated situation of the libraries for the blind and visually impaired in the German-speaking countries, which is due to historical developments, e.g. the German partition and the subsequent establishment of several libraries catering for the needs of the blind and visually impaired.

Wolfgang Angermann, president of the EBU, discussed the aims and problems surrounding the Marrakesh-Treaty and emphasized the importance of a quick ratification by the EU.

Michael Seadle, professor for Library and Information Sciences at the Humboldt-University in Berlin, Germany, focused on the user group of persons with dyslexia. Being dyslexic himself, he described some of the problems people with dyslexia might

experience when reading and he stressed that layout and adaptability of layout is key to offering people with dyslexia the possibility to adjust their digital reading material to their own needs.

Following up on that topic was Bernhard Heinser from Access for All who talked about EPUB 3 and accessible ICT (information and communication technology) underlining the importance of creating, providing and using standards for accessible ICTs to enable all users to benefit from knowledge and information alike.

A similar topic was picked up by Edmar Schutt from Dedicon who introduced EduPUB, accessible educational publications, and depicted the EPUB 3 and EduPUB benefits with the platform Yoleo, an online library for children who struggle to read.

Subsequently, Gerhard Weber, professor for human-computer interaction at Dresden University of Technology, Germany, presented his research group's offers to provide accessible formats of study material for blind and visually impaired students.

Roswitha Borer Amoroso, from the SBS (Swiss Library for the blind, visually impaired and print disabled) introduced a new online and download platform for children

with dyslexia called "Buchknacker" providing e-books and audiobooks especially for this recently acquired user group.

Concluding the symposium were Martin Schulze and Lars Voigt from the DZB itself, introducing the project BADI which aims for barrier-free adaption of digital content with a focus on textbooks and non-fiction using the EPUB 3-standard and enhancing the Radium Software for the special requirements of the DZB. We once again thank all members of the LPD group's standing committee for their presence and the speakers for their interesting presentations.

All presentations of the symposium are available on <http://www.dzb.de/en/about-us/projects/badi-symposium.html>.

Felicitas Hanke, Christiane Felsmann and Thomas Kahlisch, German Central Library for the Blind, DZB, Germany.

Tailoring the Reading Experience to Meet Individual Needs

LPD Satellite Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, United States

LPD is proud to announce its 2016 pre-conference as a satellite to the 2016 IFLA congress in Columbus, Ohio. The LPD satellite will be hosted by the American Printing House of the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

Dates: 11 and 12 August
(Thursday and Friday) for 1,5 day

Arriving on the 10th and leaving in the afternoon of the 12th allowing for traveling up to the IFLA congress in Columbus, Ohio (distance is 206 Miles, or 330 km)

Venue TBA in Louisville, Kentucky

Theme: Tailoring the Reading Experience to Meet Individual Needs.

No size fits all. Personalizing the reading experience through apps, online players and assorted assistive technologies, creates new and exciting ways to read.

A call for presentations will be published soon.

Please save the dates and start planning for Louisville!

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