



**IFLA Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS)**

## **IFLA MLAS Standing Committee Meeting**

### **MLAS SC Meeting I**

**August 22, 2009**

Milan, Italy

#### **Standing Committee members present:**

Sinikka Sipila, Chair, Tore Andersen, Maria Cotera, Janice Lachance, Keith Michael Fiels, Regine Horinstein, Sue Hutley, Jesus Lau, Hellen Niegaard, Johnny Roj-Larsen, Barbara Schleihaugen, Maria Shaparnева, Silvia Stasselova

#### **Guests:**

Claudia Lux, President, IFLA, Ellen Tise, IFLA President Elect, Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General, Niclas Lindberg, Swedish Library Association, Agneta Olsson, Chair 2010 WLIC National Committee, Wiviann Wilhelmsson, Swedish Library Association, Inga Lunden, Swedish Library Association, Jan Richards, Australian Library and Information Association, Charles Lowrey, ARL, Doug Newcomb, SLA, Pierra Boillat, Geneva Librarians Association, Dave Percival, CILIP, Hanne Pigonska, Danish Library Association, Jose Merlo, FESABID, Kelly Moore, CLA, Bjorn Christiansen, NUMGE (Norway), Brigitte Sandell, IFLA-ALP, Nittabiseng Kotokoare, WIL-IFLA, Lidia Putziger, IFLA HQ, Rachel More, LIASA, Gloria Perez-Salmeron, Spanish Federation of Libraries, Michael Dowling, ALA, Sabine Stummeyer, Bib. Germany, Marian Koren, IFLA Library Theory and Research Section, Lydia Fisher, Fiona Bradley, IFLA HQ.

#### **Secretary's report**

Secretary Keith Michael Fiels reported that draft Annual Reports for 2006, 2007 and 2008 have been distributed to MLAS SC members for comment. They will be posted once comments have been received.

Minutes from the Mid Term Meeting in Bratislava were approved with minor corrections.

## **Financial Report**

Treasurer Tore Andersen reported that 815 Euros are available to the section as an allocation from Headquarters, subject to submission and approval of a proposal.

## **Report from Governing Board Meeting**

MLAS Chair Sinikka Sipila serves as a member of the Governing Board. Ms. Sipila reported on the move of the 2010 WLIC from Brisbane to Gothenburg, Sweden.

Secretary General Nicholson discussed some proposed changes in the process for future site selection and some of the financial requirements of a successful congress. She indicated that a group is working on a new process, and that five principles have been adopted by the GB. GB and MLAS SC member Barbara Schleihagen served as a member of the working group.

SC members were referred to the MLAS Chairs written report.

## **Information Coordinator's Report**

A newsletter was emailed to MLAS list serve subscribers in June 2009.

Sue Hutley was commended on her fine job on the newsletter. She indicated that she will be sharing some guidelines for those submitting articles, and indicated that IFLA is pursuing a translation package. Barbara Schleihagen is a member of the group working on this. Work on the new version of the brochure is proceeding.

## **President Elect's workshop in Stellenbosch**

Ellen Tise reported on plans for her Presidential Meeting in Stellenbosch, South Africa in February. Newly-elected Chair Janice Lachance, Sinikka Sipila, Tore Andersen and Hellen Niegaard will be working on plans for a MLAS workshop on how MLAS can support the Presidential theme. A preliminary plan will be shared at the SC II meeting.

## **Election of New Officers**

Janice LaChance was elected Chair. Silvia Stasselova was elected Secretary.

## **Strategic Plan**

There is a need to look at the MLAS strategic plan in light of the new IFLA association capacity building program. How can the new program and MLAS GLAD program best complement each other?

Johnny Roj-Larsen, Silvia Stasselova and Edita Bacic agreed to work on a draft update for discussion at the SC meeting II.

Once the new IFLA plan is available (it will be shared as a draft for the GB in December, and to the membership for approval in Gothenburg), the MLAS SC can discuss the plan at its Mid Term Meeting. As the MLAS plan needs to be submitted to IFLA in November, it will be based on the present IFLA plan, then would need to be revised as the IFLA plan is available.

## **MLAS membership Report**

Ingeborg Verheul reported a 2.5% increase in membership for the year. 125 of the 1564 members are national associations (9%). 150 countries are now represented in IFLA, an increase of 3.

IFLA is also adding a new membership management system.

## **IFLA 2009 Milan Programme**

Pre-conference satellite workshop before IFLA 2009 was held in Greece. MLAS SC member Edita Bacic from Croatian Library Association gave a presentation at the workshop organized in cooperation of IFLA Marketing Section and Management of Library Associations Section.

MLAS has a joint whole day programme session on Wednesday 26 August entitled "Librarians on the catwalk: communicating for advocacy to influence policy and practice" in cooperation with CPDWL Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section and ALP Action for Development through Libraries Core Programme.

Presentations include:

A model of library networking in Greece

Advocacy for library development: action plan, policies and practices in India Reframing organizations through communication and advocacy

The experience from the Library Society of China in influencing government policy

Gates Foundation projects on Building librarians' capacity to advocate successfully leads to sustainable libraries

Influence of the collegiate bodies in public politics for the legislation of state and municipal libraries network in Chihuahua, Mexico

Through another pair of eyes: internal alignment for successful advocacy

A film on making presentations, followed by discussion and mentoring opportunities

A wrap-up of programme

## **National Associations Meeting**

Agenda items were discussed. These include presentations by the President Elect and President on their themes, an overview of the Building Strong Library Associations Programme, a discussion of associations sponsoring other association's memberships and a presentation by the Chair of CLM on the Statement of Principles regarding Copyright Exceptions and Limitations. The session is co-convened by the Secretary General and MLAS Chair (*58 representatives attended the session*).

## **Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group**

Conveners Maria Cotera and Nthabiseng Kotsokoane reported that the group is presenting a session at the WLIC entitled: "Libraries Creating Futures for the Women of the World".

Panelists include Dr. Camila Alire, President of the American Library Association, Elizabet de Carvalho, Manager of the IFLA Regional Office of Latin America and the Caribbean, Barbara Schleihaugen, IFLA Governing Board, Ellen Tise, IFLA President 2009-2011 and L.E. Ndaki from South Africa.

A Global woman's fair is planned for the next WLIC. The fair will feature the sharing of best practices in support of women users and women library and information workers.

## **MLAS 2010 programme**

The Chair discussed a proposal for a joint program with the Library Theory and Research Section. Marian Koren, IFLA Library Theory and Research Section, was also present.

The program would focus on two perspectives; From libraries, research that shows that supports the position that libraries should be part of the political agenda and research that shows what strategies and policies are effective. From the perspective of the research institutions, research is developed as part of a research agenda.

Questions to be addressed include:

Do we need a research based library agenda?

How can we work toward such an agenda?

Are there examples of best practice?

What would a research/evidence based agenda at the international level look like?

## **Building Strong Library Associations Programme**

Fiona Bradley reported on the new programme, which is supported by a grant from the Gates Foundation. This programme is part of ALP, which has been supported by the Swedish government since 1991 and has resided in Upsala, will now be relocated to the IFLA Headquarters Office.

Brigitte Sandell, the director of ALP, reported that 15 workshops have been held over the last 15 years on association development.

Ms. Badley indicated that she was looking for a nomination of a representative to a conference in Oceania planned for October.

## **Global Library Association Development (GLAD) Programme**

Hellen Niegaard and Keith Fiels reported that plans for the association wiki have been on hold pending the implementation of the IFLA web site.

In the area of regional association development, Brigitte Sandell reported on an ALP funded conference in Sri Lanka.

## **MLAS SC I Minutes written by**

Keith Michael Fiels  
IFLA MLAS Secretary  
American Library Association  
Executive Director

**MLAS SC Meeting II**  
**August 27, 2009**  
Milan, Italy

**Standing Committee members present:**

Janice Lachance, Chair, Tore Andersen, Sinikka Sipila, Keith Michael Fiels, Regine Horinstein, Jesus Lau, Hellen Niegaard, Johnny Roj-Larsen, Barbara Schleihagen, Maria Shaparneva, Silvia Stasselova, Maria Cotera, Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group Loida Garcia-Febo, New Professionals SIG

**Guests:**

Stuart Hamilton, IFLA HQ, Winnie Vitzansky, Danish Library Association, Wiviann Wilhelmsson, Swedish Library Association, Niclas Lindberg, Swedish Library Association, Doug Newcomb, Special Libraries Association, Mike Heaney, Chair of IFLA Division IV, Nthabiserg Kotsokoane, South Africa, Bjorn Christiansen, Fagforbundet, Norway, Martina Kerec, Slovenia, Jose Merlo, FESABID, Spain, Marcel Chiranov, Romania, Sabine Stummeyer, Germany, Kelly Moore, Canadian Library Association, Robert Mizzi, Malta Library Association, Eli Greve, Denmark, Gloria Perez-Salmeron, FESABID, Spain, Javier Leiva, FESABID, Spain, Maria Jose Ramos, Angola, Asan Kuman Chakrabost, Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centers

**Welcome and official opening of the MLAS SC Meeting II  
by a newly elected MLAS Chair, Janice Lachance**

Janice Lachance expressed her special thanks to Sinikka Sipila and to Keith Michael Fiels for their previous work and their input to the MLAS Standing Committee. Everybody in the room was asked to introduce herself / himself in brief.

**Advocacy work at IFLA**

Stuart Hamilton reported on Building Strong Library Associations Programme consisting of the training package with 6 modules based on the e-learning platform and the mentoring programme. Responsible person is Fiona Bradley from IFLA HQ. Small expert group meeting was held in February 2009, afterwards in June 2009 in Den Hague met a few representatives from transition countries for a 5 day workshop. Draft modules were delivered to be discussed with the programme partners. As each library association is different, it is expected to offer the "tailored" training packages to the associations interested.

The training package will cover the shortcut of the work of library associations, from starting an association and writing a strategic plan, to developing member services, fundraising and advocacy. The modules will be illustrated with success stories from library associations and case studies. Examples and case studies will be sought in consultation with MLAS.

Mike Heaney, Chair of IFLA Division IV, has added his comments on the statistics and evaluation package expected to be ready for the IFLA 2010 Congress in Gothenburg.

Keith Michael Fiels expressed his request for IFLA to circulate the drafts of the modules among all MLAS SC members to have an opportunity to comment on them.

Barbara Schleihagen has informed that the modules expect to be tested in October 2009 and she could send the draft to all MLAS SC members on December 2009. The best practices and some case studies are needed from MLAS.

### **Global Library Association Development (GLAD) Programme**

Keith Michael Fiels has informed the Standing Committee about a generous offer from ALA – American Library Association to allocate 10 000 USD to create the space where each library association could have brief information on their basic facts, number of members, successful projects, etc. After this information the MLAS audience clapped loudly.

Hellen Niegaard and Keith Fiels met Michael Dowling and consulted with Simon Lemstra, webmaster of the main IFLA website, where wikis should be placed. The plans were delayed pending the implementation of the new IFLA website.

Stuart Hamilton expressed his special thanks to Keith Michael Fiels and ALA. Janice Lachance, MLAS Chair expressed her thanks to Hellen Niegaard, Keith Michael Fiels and Michael Dowling, ALA.

### **Financial Support for the Library Associations IFLA membership fees**

Tore Andersen initiated the discussion on the procedure how can library associations ask for help / financial support for their IFLA membership fees. He mentioned there could be many countries (for example Malawi, Mali, Tansania) and we don't meet their request for the support at MLAS.

Barbara Schleihagen has expressed her opinion that the financing of the poor library associations is not the part of the training programme, but it is a part of GLAD. Lidia Putziger at IFLA HQ should collect the signals that someone needs help. French speaking countries are covered. The HQ staff is very active in this matter.

Keith Michael Fiels offered that ALA should be able to pay half of the IFLA membership fees to all American continent poor library associations, but the contact with their presidents is not easy. To pay just half of the fees is the ALA policy. Tore Andersen supported the idea of ALA to force the poor associations to try to find the half of IFLA fees funding themselves what makes them more active.

Robert Mizzi from the Malta Library Association asked on the current criteria for the funding of the small associations as the amount of 300 EUR means a large part of their budget and some small associations have no chance if they don't partner with the developing countries. IFLA HQ staff should know criteria as there is no standard at GLAD.

Jesus Lau expressed it would be great to link GLAD and Building Strong Library Associations Programme.

### **UNESCO Multicultural Manifesto Update**

Winnie Vitzansky informed the Standing Committee on the background of the necessary cooperation with the UNESCO national commissions before the UNESCO conference to be held in October 2009 to force the IFLA Multicultural Manifesto to be included to the agenda of the conference and endorsed by UNESCO.

Ellen Tise and Stuart Hamilton urged national associations to establish contact with national commissions to urge them to follow up on the World Summit on the Information Society. UNESCO delegates need to be urged to adopt the IFLA multicultural manifesto. The manifesto may be placed on the agenda by either the UNESCO Executive Director or a member of the Executive Committee. The manifesto has already been endorsed by the Information for All Programme. An alternative would be to add the language provisions to the Public Library Manifesto, which has been updated periodically.

A letter to associations will be forthcoming shortly.

Barbara Schleihagen informed on the situation in Germany, where the UNESCO national commission has been asked for their support already. She also underlined that it is very unusual to support the document coming from the other professional body.

Hellen Niegaard mentioned that UNESCO believes in one strong simple document and prefers not to have so many of them (after the common Public Library Manifesto there is an interest to continue with the School Library Manifesto, etc.)

Jesus Lau asked whether there is a template of the official letter available to be able to force Mexican and Latin American UNESCO national committees. All associations were expected to receive the official letter from IFLA president as soon as possible.

### **MLAS Strategic Plan 2010 - 2011**

Johnny Roj-Larsen, Silvia Stasselova and Edita Bacic agreed to work on a draft after SC meeting I and update the Strategic Plan for discussion at the SC meeting II. Edita Bacic has apologized later as she had to return home from Milan a few days sooner.

Silvia Stasselova and Johnny Roj-Larsen have prepared the printed copy of the updated MLAS Strategic Plan 2010 – 2011 to all MLAS SC members. They have been asked to send the e version to MLAS mailing group and collect the comments.

Maria Cotera was asked to add the plan of WILDG to the MLAS Strategic Plan.

### **Evaluation of the MLAS programme during IFLA 2010**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2009 "Librarians on the catwalk: communicating for advocacy to influence policy and practice"** in cooperation with CPDWL Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section and ALP Action for Development through Libraries Core Programme.

Janice Lachance informed that 200 participants attended the whole day programme and there were very good comments among participants.

Barbara Schleihagen mentioned it was a pity that the simultaneous translation was missing as there were long queues for the headphones and the Chinese presentation was interesting.

Keith Michael Fiels added that the translation is very expensive and it was a great help for IFLA to support the MLAS event.

### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009 Management of Library Associations: GLAD Training Session**

Michael Dowling, Silvia Stasselova and Hellen Niegaard reported on the training session held the Saturday afternoon. Topics covered included communication and membership development, management and leadership in small associations, advocacy and political instruments, and a group discussion.

Sinikka Sipila proposed to have a training session at the other day next year, not before the conference official opening, to interest more participants.

Hellen Niegaard supported this idea as much more than 17 people would come.  
Barbara Schleihagen found it a very valuable session.

Keith Michael Fiels has underlined that more than training, the exchange of best practices is the most valuable.

Maria Cotera saw the training session to be a pilot one and the next year we change the conditions to promote the training to more participants.

### **Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group**

**“Libraries Creating Futures for the Women of the World” panel discussion** was very successful. Maria Cotera reported there were more than 80 participants and a great discussion among them.

Panelists included Dr. Camila Alire, President of the American Library Association, Elizabet de Carvalho, Manager of the IFLA Regional Office of Latin America and the Caribbean, Barbara Schleihagen, IFLA Governing Board, Ellen Tise, IFLA President 2009-2011 and L.E. Ndaki from South Africa.

Maria Cotera mentioned that IFLA Express was a disaster regarding its delayed edition after lunch, when the day’s entire programme was already past.

### **New Professionals Special Interest Group**

Loida Garcia-Febo reported that the group has successfully become a Special Interest Group, with Johanna Ball as convener and Loida and Andrew Cranfield as advisors.

Loida reported on the groups successful satellite conference in Bologna, entitled: “Moving in, moving up, and moving on: Strategies for regenerating the library and information profession”. More than 80 people attended.

She also reported on the group’s programme in Milan, entitled “Creating a positive environment for a multi-generational library and information workforce.” 300 attended the programme. Plans are underway for a one day event in Gothenburg, which will focus on how to “internationalize” your career.

Last, she reported on various online endeavors, including the new NPDG blog, YouTube videos from Bologna, and the ifla2009 twitter group (490 people). Future plans call for more online innovations, as well as partnerships with other IFLA groups.

Barbara Schleihagen was fascinated by involving the young professionals to enter the dialogue.

### **2011 WLIC Programme Planning**

Discussion on the possible events to continue at the MLAS Mid Term meeting in February 2010.

### **MLAS SC Mid Term Meeting and MLAS Workshop – February 2010**

MLAS Workshop will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in Stellenbosch, South Africa, before the 2010 IFLA Presidential Meeting (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2010). MLAS SC Mid Term meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in Stellenbosch.

Tore Andresen offered a possible financial support to some African participants to be able to attend the events.

Janice Lachance suggested the main topic of the afternoon workshop programme to be the different models of library associations, at the request of LIASA.

### **Closing statement by Janice Lachance, MLAS Chair**

MLAS Chair expressed her gratitude to present MLAS SC members for their attending MLAS Standing Committee in Milan and expressed her wish to meet MLAS Standing Committee members at MLAS SC Mid-Term Meeting in February 2010 in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

### **MLAS SC II Minutes written by**



Silvia Stasselová  
IFLA MLAS Secretary  
Slovak Librarians Association  
President  
00421 904694054  
silvia.stasselova@gmail.com