



APPROVED MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday 30 August 2019, 09:00-11:00, in room MC2

Megaron Athens International Conference Centre, Athens Greece

Present: Vicki McDonald (Chair, Professional Committee), Sonia Poulin (Chair Division I), Helen Vincent (Chair Division II), Adjoa Boateng (Chair Division III), Catharina Isberg (Chair Division IV), Sanjay Kumar Bihani (Chair Division V), Barbara Lison (President-elect), Ellen Tise (Chair, Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), Martyn Wade (Chair, Copyright and Other Legal Matters (CLM)), Ai Cheng Tay (GB member observing) and Sueli Mara Soares Pinto Ferreira (GB member observing).

Staff: Helen Mandl (Deputy Secretary General and Director, Member Services).

Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed the Committee in the traditional language of her home region and noted that 2019 is the International Year of Indigenous Languages. She stated that it would be an exciting two years ahead for the Committee with a lot of work to undertake.

1. General Business

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Item 4.1 on the Election of the Professional Committee Vice-Chair was deferred to the meeting of the Governing Board when the full membership of the Professional Committee would be known. An additional item 3.3 Reflections on the Congress was added.

Resolution: The agenda was approved.

1.2 Introductions

Members of the Committee and observers were invited to introduce themselves and to provide some background on their involvement with IFLA. The Chair summarized by noting the diversity of experience among members which should prove beneficial to the work of the Committee.

1.3 Professional Committee Roles and Responsibilities

The Chair provided an overview of the work of the Professional Committee. This encompasses the work of the Professional Units, the Congress and IFLA Publications and ensuring that this aligns with IFLA's Strategy. It was noted that the Chairs of CLM and FAIFE were ex officio members of the Professional Committee as the work of their Advisory Committees were applicable to many of the Professional Units. The Chair noted the business cycle and the decision making that takes place at each meeting. Review work often happens between

meetings and IFLA HQ aims to have papers to members at least 7 working days before the meetings.

Resolution: The Professional Committee noted the information.

2. Professional Programme Development Plan

2.1 Professional Programme Development Plan: Handover

The Chair introduced this paper which outlined the work and objectives of the previous Professional Committees. There was a general discussion about the objectives with the idea of confirming the Objectives at the December 2019 meeting.

Some comments included:

Missing the involvement of the Strategy in the objectives; being conscious of the possible impact of the governance and structure review on units; being aware of the Roadmap and timeline for the governance review; being clear about units aligning with IFLA's vision; need for engagement and buy-in from units in the review; language used, time to discuss and consult is important; in the governance review we should look at what we don't want to lose in the current structure; changes to statutes will also be needed to meet the timeline; communicate clearly why IFLA wants to change; communication with the units and membership will be extremely important during this period and an essential part of success.

The proposed objectives for 2019/20-2020/21 were discussed:

1. Align work of the professional units with the IFLA strategy
 - a. Enable units to take initiative
 - b. Embedding the new Action Plan process
 - c. Support units to understand the IFLA Strategy
 - d. Explore the functionality of the tools that IFLA provides to the units
2. Lead the governance review with regard to the professional structure of IFLA
 - a. Provide clear and defined materials on units and what makes them effective
 - b. Clarify what we have and don't want to lose
 - c. Ensure strong and inclusive communications
 - d. Explore and review the governance of the Sections
3. Strengthen the communication and collaboration between all stakeholders
 - a. Communication between Governing Board and Division Chair and Professional Units
 - b. Ensure that Chairs and Secretaries are included and have access to key communication channels such as Basecamp and Officers mailing list
 - c. Ensure that Standing Committee members have a key role in contributing to the process
 - d. Nomination of people needs to be better communicated
 - e. Enhance the collaboration between different sections and across Divisions
4. Develop the congress as a professional experience and international forum and participate in the review of the congress

- a. Address how WLIC can develop as a virtual project
- b. Explore how to deal with working meetings on particular projects as part of WLIC
- c. Develop strands within the programme for the congress
- d. Explore how to improve multilingualism within the conference

Resolution: That the Professional Committee develop the Objectives and Activities of the Professional Programme Development Plan further with a view to finalising them in December 2019.

3. Business Matters

3.1 Communication within the Professional Committee

The Chair noted that she believed it would be helpful to have monthly Zoom calls with the Professional Committee. This may be challenging for some time zone issues but hopefully one time can be found, and a regular date put in diaries.

The invitation will include the Chairs of CLM and FAIFE and they will opt in if the agenda is relevant.

3.2 Communication with Sections within Divisions

The Division Chairs were asked to encourage new officers to use Zoom and Basecamp. There will also be a summary report from the Chair that can be sent out to Officers which should be available by the end of September. Division Chairs were reminded to set up Zoom calls with the Officers in their Divisions at least once every four months to keep them updated with news from the Professional Committee.

The Chair of Division V noted that there had been a Declaration provided by Division V. It was confirmed that this had been submitted to the Governing Board and will be discussed by the Governing Board. Additional reports and background material were still expected from the submitters.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 WLIC 2020 Satellite Meetings

Noted that the deadline for Satellite Meetings will be November 15, 2020. Dublin will be seeking host libraries as soon as possible.

6. Dates of next meetings

The Chair will be in touch regarding the monthly Zoom meetings. The next meeting of the Professional Committee will be on 9 December 2019 in The Hague.