

## **IFLA Section 32 Midyear Business Meeting 2021**

### **MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Lan Gao, Andrew Finegan, Le Yang, Anita Basak, Adjoa Boateng, Simona-Marilena Bursasiu, Theresa Byrd, Eleonore Clavreul, Olga Cuadrado Fernández, Miyuki Hamaguchi, Suela Jorgaqi, Leslie Kuo, Shelli Lake, Maria Neryueva, Pam Ryan, Sabine Weber-Beard, Catharina Boss, James Toner, Anne Barnhart

**Observers:** Sorina Stanca, Yasuko Hirata, Fred Gitner, Elisabet Rundqvist,

**Apologies:** Alireza Afshari, Oddbjørn Hansen, Sebastian Tarazona, Jiangshun Zhang, Elisabeth Marrow, Teona Shainidze Krebs

#### **1. Welcome and Greetings**

Each of the attendees introduced themselves to the group.

#### **2. Approval of the 2020 Section Annual Business Meeting minutes**

The meeting minutes were approved.

#### **3. Announcements and reports**

##### **a. New Leadership Team**

Leslie has decided to step down as Secretary at the end of 2020. So, Andrew has stepped into this role, and Le Yang has moved into the position of Information Coordinator

##### **b. Chair's report**

Attached

##### **c. Secretary's report**

Attached

##### **d. Information Coordinator's report**

Attached

##### **e. Newsletter update**

The March issue is the last issue prepared by Pam. We thank Pam and her team at Toronto Public Library for preparing the newsletter over the past few years.

Lan asked if there were any objections to Andrew taking over the newsletter. No objections. Congratulations

##### **f. Section financial report**

Currently, we have a little over 1000 EUR hosted by IFLA HQ – propose to use for the 2022 Satellite Meeting, which will occur in an in-person satellite meeting. No objections.

##### **g. Elisabet Rundqvist (Guest) Presentation**

Minority rights are human rights. Minorities have a right to participate in decision-making that will affect them. We need to ask and listen to them in a more structured way.

Indigenous people have been present in the area since the beginning of time. Others have arrived in more recent times, such as immigrants, asylum seekers. Then there are those in the middle – when national borders shifted (ie after conflicts) people become minorities, despite having a long history in that region.

Example – the Sami people are both Indigenous and National Minorities – they cross four political borders, but consider themselves to be also national minorities.

Elisabet proposes that IFLA Governing Board should recognize national minorities – to set up a third unit: National minorities under international / national law.

Indigenous Matters have already indicated that they will not support this group, as it's not specifically about Indigenous people.

Example of other similar bodies: NAPLE Working Group– “Library services for, with and by persons identifying as bearer of a Regional or Minority Language.”

Lan: Encourage Elisabet to proceed with the procedures

Adjoa: I would like to support Elisabet's proposal. From her experience supporting Indigenous Matters, she has experience that can be useful.

#### **4. 2020-2021 Action Plan Progress Review**

Leslie: The project has been working on is informal guidelines for IFLA groups to run their meetings in a way that is helpful for those who are not fluent in the language that the meeting is run.

Anne: Survey was conducted before COVID. The data has been compiled. We were going to follow up with interviews with some libraries. Andrew elaborated (conversations with Nancy)

Le: Promotional campaign for Manifesto and Toolkit. Looking to post highlights on social media on how the manifesto is being used.

Lan: Appreciates all the work that people have done – but want to remind project leaders that they are responsible to keep project members engaged and informed on project progress.

#### **5. 2021 IFLA WLIC**

Update on WLIC 2021 session plans.

- 15 years of the Multicultural Library Manifesto – no objections
- Co-sponsoring LSN session – seeking support in identifying a good example of library providing refugee, asylum seeker, migrant and immigrant – no objections
- Proposed round table with CPDWL and NPSIG – put on the back burner – propose that we table it as a possible collaboration in 2022

## **6. IFLA elections 2021**

Following the governance review changes, IFLA has called for elections in line with the new governance structure. It will come into effect on the day after the 2022 General Assembly.

Some changes:

Information Coordinator is now officially an IFLA Officer.

Corresponding members are now discontinued – additional five members can be co-opted to improve geographic diversity in the standing committee.

Adjoa: For the outgoing committee members – thanks for your work, and please do consider some of the other committees that are seeking members.

Lan: Please elaborate on regional divisions

Adjoa: New – one new region (MENA) – you need to be a member of that region to nominate somebody for that committee.

Lan: Please elaborate on new overall structure.

Adjoa: Smaller governing board. Sections will now be divided into eight divisions – with eight division chairs – but those chairs will not be in the Governing Board – only the professional council chair will be in the governing board. Also – anybody can run for the governing board as a Member at Large.

Lan encourages SC members to familiarize with new governance structures.

Andrew question: When do the changes come into effect for incoming SC members?

WLIC will happen in the second half of August. First business meeting should happen in the two weeks prior to WLIC – with previous committee to prepare the incoming committee and select new leadership team. Second business meeting will happen after the General Assembly, with the incoming standing committee – but outgoing members are encouraged to attend to help with the handover.

Sabine: When will WLIC details be announcement be announced and registration open?

Adjoa: In the next month or so – definitely before 1 July.

## **7. Communication & Active Involvement of SC Members**

Lan: Thank you for your help and dedication, and moving forward, it would be good to see more involvement at all levels. Team members, do reach out to your team leaders, and reach out to us if you'd like to get more involved and we can help connect you with teams.

## **8. Any other business**

Each member was invited to talk about what's happening in their workplaces.

## Chair's Report

Prepared by IFLA Section 32 Chair Lan Gao

March 2021

In August 2020 our Section hosted a virtual Annual Business Meeting. During the meeting, we reviewed our Annual Report, Action Plan, and IFLA WLIC session. Chair's Report, Secretary's Report, Information Coordinator's Report, and IFLA/UNESCO Multicultural Library Manifesto Toolkit translation update were also shared among attendees. After the meeting, public version of Annual Report 2019-2020 survey and Action Plan 2020-2021 were posted on our Unit's webpage by Andrew Finegan.

In December 2020, Leslie Kuo requested to step down as Secretary of our Standing Committee. Andrew Finegan is now serving as Secretary of our Standing Committee and Le Yang is our Information Coordinator. I appreciate Leslie's contributions to our Section and want to extend my gratitude to Andrew and Le for the support they have provided me.

In October 2020, Lan attended Division III meeting. In March 2021, Lan and Andrew attended Division III meeting. In March 2021, Unit Mid-term Updates were submitted to IFLA. We have included newsletter publishing and *Manifesto* Campaign in the updates.

This year, the World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) will be held virtually, with the welcome support of the Dutch National Committee. The physical conference previously planned for will be moved to 2023 to be held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands with hybrid components. An in-person conference will be planned for in Dublin, Ireland in 2022. Due to the changes, we will now postpone our collaborations with CPDWL to co-present a WLIC open session until further notice. We have an online WLIC 2021 session planned.

We will not be hosting Satellite Meeting in 2021, but there should be one in 2022. Satellite Meeting 2022 Team will be led by Simona-Marilena Bursasiu, and co-led by Andrew Finegan and Sabine Weber-Beard. There should be some funds held by IFLA HQ that we can use for the Satellite Meeting, if the committee approves.

After IFLA Members have voted overwhelmingly for a more inclusive, effective, and transparent governance in February, IFLA has launched its 2021 nominations and elections process. For more details, please go to elections and appointments webpage: <https://www.ifla.org/node/93674>.

We have published March 2021 Section newsletter. It was prepared by our newsletter editor Pam Ryan and her team at Toronto Public Library and coordinated by our Information Coordinator Le Yang. We dedicated part of our Section's March issue of newsletter to stories of how IFLA/UNESCO Multicultural Library Manifesto and the Toolkit have been used and implemented in the libraries. I would like to thank all the contributors, our Standing Committee members who coordinated and helped with this task, and especially our newsletter editor Pam Ryan and her team at Toronto Public Library who have prepared and published this newsletter.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the work you have done for our Section. We can't achieve our goals without your dedication.

## Secretary's Report – Section 32 Mid-year Meeting

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge the work of Leslie Kuo who concluded her as SC Secretary role in late 2020 for health reasons. She will remain on the SC as a member. She thanks the Section for entrusting her with this role in 2019 and wishes the new Secretary, Andrew Finegan, all the best.

In turn, Andrew has been handing over the Information Coordinator role to Le Yang.

Over the last month, the MCULTP leadership team have been busy in preparation for:

- Section elections - 2021 is an election year, and with the IFLA Governance Review, there have been some changes. The most notable of these for the section is that there will no longer be corresponding members. So, we encourage any current corresponding members who wish to continue to serve on the Standing Committee to run for election. Please contact Andrew, if you'd like some guidance on how the nomination process works.
- Reviewing the Action Plan - COVID-19 has continued to create disruption for our planned activities, and so we have needed to adjust our timeframes accordingly.
- WLIC 2021 Virtual Conference – A call for proposals was recently announced, and we have been working to put together a pre-recorded in-conversation discussion around the history of the Multicultural Library Manifesto.
- MCULTP Newsletter – The latest issue of the MCULTP newsletter has now been published. Thanks to all of the contributors, and special thanks to Pam Ryan and the team at Toronto Public Library.

The next six months will be an interesting transitional period, as we prepare for our first ever IFLA Virtual Conference, with a new revised Governance Structure.

Andrew Finegan  
MCULTP Secretary  
March 2021

## **IFLA Section 32 Midyear Meeting 2021**

### Information Coordinator's Report

At the end of 2020, Andrew Finegan moved into the Secretary position, and handed over the Information Coordinator role to Le Yang. He wishes Le Yang all the best for the role in 2021, and looks forward to working together in the MCULTP leadership team.

#### Social media team:

Since last year's meeting, there hasn't been a lot of opportunity for engagement in social media. Usually, attending the WLIC annual conference is an opportunity to create a lot of engaging content, with photographs from sessions, posters and social events, commentary on open session discussion, and announcements of awards.

Hopefully, having the virtual WLIC later this year will create opportunities for more engagement through social media again.

#### Social media engagement:

We have been posting content to three social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

I have prepared some statistics around our engagement on each of these platforms from the past seven months since our annual meeting.

#### Facebook :

In the past seven months, the number of followers has grown from 2,374 to 2,816, gaining 442 followers. There were nine Facebook posts made during this time. Our peak level of engagement was on the 21 March, when we promoted the March 2021 newsletter. That post had a reach of 411 people and 29 reactions, showing that, even though we have been posting less often, when we put content out there, there is still some good engagement.

#### Twitter:

We went from 1,664 to 1,793 followers, gaining 129 followers in seven months. We posted 11 tweets in this time.

Our most engaging content was from:

- End of year message, wishing everybody the best for 2021 (1,515 impressions, 36 engagements)
- Call for submissions for our March 2021 newsletter. (1,391 impressions, 19 engagements)

### Instagram:

We only posted three times to Instagram during this time, but our followers have grown from 618 to 740 followers. All three posts had good engagement:

- End of year post - 30 likes
- International Translation Day post - 35 likes
- LBES instagram post - 48 likes

I think we should continue to investigate options for posting to Instagram - once we return to in-person activities, it will be an opportunity to build much more traffic on this channel.

### Other Information activities:

In the past seven months, we have had 4 new subscribers join – we are now at 183 subscribers on the elist.

There was a delay in the delivery of the end-of-year newsletter, as we were first waiting for the governance review changes to come through. The newsletter, which came out this month, focused on 15 years of the IFLA/UNESCO Multicultural Library Manifesto. This is the final newsletter to be produced by Pam and the team at Toronto Public Library. We thank Pam and her team for the contribution that they have made over these past years.

Pending the committee approval, Andrew Flanagan will take over the role of Editor, starting with next issue, which is planned to have a theme celebrating 40 years of MCULTP.