1. Welcome and Opening
The chair Gulcin Cribb opens with the meeting. This meeting is recorded. She starts with the following statement: "I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which I am speaking to you today and pay my respects to their elders past and present".

It are challenging times globally; especially India is now very badly affected by COVID-19. Ramesh C. Gaur explains the/ his situation in India which is very bad but things are getting better now. We wish him and his family strength

Since many of us are dealing with much uncertainty and difficulties we wish everybody physical, mental and social well-being

Gulcin Cribb thanks everybody that contributed with comments and contribution to finalizing the DUIA submission. she acknowledges especially Mimi Calter for editing the DUIA submission. Our YouTube recordings of the webinars have been viewed over 700 times the last 9 month. One webinar has even been one viewed over 200 times. Our Facebook followers keep growing: we have now over 4700 members. The DUIA proposal has been submitted by now.

Last year we received a special mention: The jury found two Sections worthy of special mention; one of them is Academic and Research Libraries (ARL)

“A special mention is given to the ARL Section for its outreach and advocacy. Five popular ARL Section webinars were held from December 2019 to September 2020. The webinar on ‘Academic Library Services during COVID-19’ in July attracted over 200 participants from around the world with ten presenters, and the webinar “Decolonization in education: role of the academic library” and “ARL

Attendance SC-ARL Members: Mari Aaltonen, Melita Ambrozic, Ursula Arning, Gulcin Cribb (Chair), Soren Dorch, Jerome Fronty, Ramesh C. Gaur, Lorraine J. Haricombe, Marga Koelen (Secretary), Xin Li, Leo F.H. Ma, Jayshree Mamtora (Information Coordinator), Sharon Murphy, Reggie Raju, Tiitu Tarkpea

Non-Attendance SC-ARL members: Fawz Abdallah, Mimi Calter (with apologies) Camila Churruca, Jim O’Donnell (with apologies), Adetoun Adebisi Oyelude, Oarabile Rakgamanyane, Liz State
Hot Topics” were both presented as webinars including the planned speakers from WLIC 2020. Their active programme of events and sessions strengthen their area of the profession and support access to knowledge and information across the globe.”

From: https://www.ifla.org/node/93739

Gulcin Cribb attended Division 1 meeting chaired by Jan Richards. There is quite a lot to report but she will highlight the relevant bits under the appropriate agenda items during the meeting. One of the points Jan shared was that IFLA is reviewing how professional units such as ours are asked to write and report on their Action Plans. They are considering asking units to prepare Action Plans for several years, instead of annually. They acknowledge that projects we plan to do are done over a number of years, not just for one or two years. The minutes are available in Basecamp https://3.basecamp.com/3833672/buckets/5499174/uploads/3802853598

2. Minutes 22/23 February
The minutes are approved and seconded so will be made public on our SC-ARL webpages.

Matters arising from the minutes:
Reggie apologizes that he was not able to present a proposal due to the disaster that happened to UCT Library which we all do understand. The idea is in line with the proposal that was made during Division 1 meeting that we need to present a more years action plan. This discussion of the proposal will be moved to the next meeting. Reggie Raju, Xin Li, Leo Ma and Bertil Sören Dorch will prepare the proposal.

Concerning the OA Statement from IFLA we can announce the following:
“For the moment, the document is still being drafted. Susan Reilly and Fiona Bradley gathered all inputs but there is still some work to do on the document before sharing it with the Governing Board. We hope to have a finalized version by next August.”
Thanks to Ursula Arning and Camila Churuca for their input.

Reggie is questioning whether there will be a connection between the UNESCO Recommendation and IFLA’s statement. He thinks it would be good if SC-ARL members could have a look before it is presented to the Governing Board. We all agree.
Gulcin Cribb will ask IFLA HQ.

Instagram: a lively discussion started about having an Instagram account. Some of us are in favor and others are more hesitant.:  
• we like to connect also to younger people who are maybe more visible on Instagram? 
• who is going to monitor the account because the content needs curation? 
• what else will it offer apart from what we place on Facebook or Twitter? 
• do not try to be everywhere and ending up being nowhere 
• think carefully about privacy
Since there are so many questions we decide that we need a communication plan in which we can found our decisions whether we use e.g. Facebook and/or Instagram or other social media. We are not aware if there are IFLA guidelines for a communication strategy by the standing committees. Gulcin Cribb will ask IFLA HQ.
There will be formed a small task force to (re)think our communication strategy: Jayhsree Mamtora, Ramesh C Gaur and Jerome Fronty.

Reggie Raju is wondering if we can publish a special issue of our IFLA Journal where we emphasize on our webinars, blogs etc. Marga Koelen will ask for the guidelines from the editors about special issues.

3. WLIC 2021 – Hot Topics session
Lorraine J Haricome is happy to announce that all the speakers for the Hot Topics session WLIC have confirmed their participation: Clifford Lynch (USA) (proposed by Sharon Murphy)
Dr. De Meyer (Singapore) (supposed by Gulcin Cribb) Dr. Rosemary Shaack (Cameroon) (proposed by Marga Koelen) Dr. Najmeh Shaghaei (Denmark) (proposed by Bertil Dorch)
And Dr. Wu (China) (proposed by Leo Ma)
The title of the hot topics session is: Resilience, Commitment and Innovation.
Speakers are from different regions and they all submitted their abstract already.
Each speaker will have 5 to 6 minutes and the session is called “Ignite Talks” in the Program of WLIC. Some presentations will be pre-recorded. After the speakers have presented there is time for discussion.

Lorraine J Haricome has organized this session with a team of SC-ARL members: Mari Aaltonen (Finland) Sharon Murphy (Canada) Jim O’Donnell (USA)

The date for the Ignite talks is not yet known.

Other WLIC 2021 business:
• As soon as we know about the registration fees for WLIC 2021 we will contact the winners of the 2020 grants and offer them registration to attend WLIC 2021 and if there are sufficient funds to offer registration to those on the list as agreed at the last meeting. WLIC registration opens at the end of May.
• IFLA chooses a company to help organizing the WLIC 2021; since everything is online it will be a very different approach. The Company will undertake all the recordings, for pre-recorded sessions.
• IFLA will organize round table discussions in the next few weeks in different time zones to discuss how things will operate. This is in process. Conference provider/vendor will help with this.
• The Congress will take place over 3 days in 3 different time zones. Registration will be for 3 days. No day registration. Fees not decided yet. GB is considering this now. Logistics will be done by the vendor.

There are still many questions unanswered. We will be kept informed by the Division 1 Chair but also through IFLA HQ.

There will be 2 Section business meetings scheduled either side of WLIC:
• first meeting (between 2nd & 13th August) will be the current Committee with newly elected members attending as observers but may not vote.
• second meeting (between 30th August and 10th September) will be the new Committee (continuing and newly elected).

We as SC-ARL we will have another mid-term meeting in June

4 The destruction of the Jagger Library (Cape Town/South Africa) through fire: disaster management and recovery and what could IFLA do?

Reggie Raju is telling us about the fire disaster that happened to his UCT Library. Reggie does want to raise this agenda point, not only for UCT library, but more in general when this type of disasters happens to others. He wants to share his experiences but also he wants to learn from others who also were confronted with such a disaster. The response of across the world was monumental and they received support from all over the world. IFLA also wrote a letter of support.

After such a disaster you need help from different experts e.g. how to recover the collection if possible, preservation and conservation guidance, how to write a disaster emergency plan, how to cope with such a disaster for the people working in the library and probably have seen the disaster happening etc.

What Reggie asks for is what steps SC-ARL (members) can take to support any other library that goes through such a disaster and the next question is what could IFLA do for such libraries?

Within SC-ARL there are more members who have gone through such a type of disaster so we will share our experiences with each other.

It was also mentioned to write a literature review to see what is available through research publications. We can draw expertise from different sections and work on a disaster plan based on literature and maybe finally submit suggestions to IFLA GB what could be done. We need to keep the momentum now.

We decide to organize a webinar on this topic. Maybe we can organize it together with other sections from IFLA like there are Library Buildings and Equipment or Preservation and Conservation section?. We could also address in the webinar whether there are funds available to help libraries affected by a disaster. The webinar should also pay attention to the psychological issues for library staff that are confronted with such a situation. Reggie is asking for names of presenters. We can all send names to Reggie Raju.

Xin Li will take the lead in organizing the webinar and Gulcin Cribb will contact the other sections if they want to cooperate.

5 Webinars / Blogs 2021

We are on schedule with our blogs for 2021 with a variety of topics. The editing process of the blogs is important and takes time.

ARL’s Facebook has over 4700 members from around the world. The posts are often shared multiple times and 'liked' 20-30 plus times. One of our posts, on the devastating wildfires and damage to the
University of Cape Town Library, was noted by over 95 people, generated 15 comments and shared 10 times.

IFLA published the Professional Units Virtual Events Handbook and therefore we were acknowledged: especially Xin Li but also other SC-ARL members contributed.

We also organized 2 webinars in 2021, one in cooperation with IFLA HQ. The webinar in April was excellent organized by Ursula Arning.

There will be one seminar in June and that is the one that describes at point 4 and in October we will have the seminar on Ethics and Integrity. Marga Koelen and Ramesh C Gaur will lead this webinar concerning the content. For February next year we think to have a seminar on the SDG’s.

Reggie Raju and Xin Li are supporting all the webinars with the technical issues etc.

6 Elections

SC-ARL had 34 nominations for the 14 vacancies. Many of the current section members (10 in total) nominated for a second term. Citing Gulcin: “I do hope you will be able to be re-elected and come back. Our Committee has excellent members. Everyone has contributes tremendous amount and I know they will continue to do so. We have done a great deal over the last 2 years and beyond. It will be good to have the continuity. ARL has a good reputation in IFLA for its dynamism”.

The new members will be announced on the 14th June. There will not be corresponding members anymore. However, we can recommend appointment of mentors who must be approved by the Division Chair, according to the new Governance policies. We like the idea of mentorship.

New Committee members start at the second business meeting (between 30th August and 10th September). IFLA will be asking sections to have a meeting in June (between 18th June and 2nd July tentatively) with current and new committee members to help them onboard. The new members will not have voting rights until the second business meeting.

IFLA is preparing a lot of policies and procedures and position descriptions for committee members as well as officers, such as Chair, Secretary and so on. There will be checklists so that there is a better way of handling transitions from past to present members/officers.

There is discussion about elections for the new officers, calling for nominations for these much earlier than we used to. Candidates will be asked to write a statement about why they are standing for the positions. Members will then vote electronically rather than via zoom. Elections for the new office bearers 18th June to 23rd July (tentatively)

Chair, Secretary and IC positions: Gulcin Cribb is happy to continue as chair. She is also happy for others to stand and help and support others. Marga Koelen will not be continuing in her role as secretary and member of ARL for another term. Jayshree nominated for a second term in ARL and also is interested to continue as IC for another term if she is elected.

See the IFLA Elections timeline website: https://www.ifla.org/node/93667

7 IFLA new website

Marga Koelen tested the new website. There were two tests:
• usability testing and; Aimed to evaluate the website by testing it against user scenarios. We tested the navigation and the content to ensure that the website’s content is understandable and the navigation is convenient.
• compatibility and performance testing: aimed at evaluating the work of the website in different operating systems (desktop, laptop, i-pad, mobile) and in different browser configurations as well as determine how the website performs in terms of responsiveness and stability

By now the testing period is closed. IFLA processes all the feedback received to fix identified functional issues and to improve the navigation through the contents.
IFLA IT staff have already fixed some of the things in the mobile version of the website and have started working on improving the search functionality.
In addition to individual testing reports, all together the group of testers left more than 180 comments which will be reviewed one by one.
In June an update on improvements made on the site will be available and there will be another chance to connect to the test site, check out the changes and leave additional feedback.

8 Any other business
Reggie Raju mentions that we still need to rethink how dynamic SC-ARL is and how we can improve this. During our next meeting we will put this on the agenda.
Reggie Raju refers to more training sessions next to our presentations during the webinars. The training sessions should be recorded so people can always look back to these sessions.
An example could be Open Access since not everybody is on the same level there.