



**International
Federation of
Library
Associations and Institutions**

Approved Minutes

Advisory Committee on Cultural Heritage
Monday, July 25 2022, 08:30 - 10:30

WLIC 2022, Dublin Ireland

In Attendance: Helen Vincent, Dorothea Sommer, Russell Lynch, Daryl Green, Liisa Savolainen, Silvia Stasselova, Jacob Nadal (PAC), Claire McGuire (IFLA HQ),

Apologies: Huanwen Cheng, Ramesh C Gaur, Ry Moran, Cecilia Salvatore, Mariia Kolpakova, Rashidah Bolhassan, Stacy Allison-Cassin

1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

Between votes given by proxy and committee members in attendance, a quorum was reached and decisions could be taken.

The agenda was approved.

2. Review of past minutes

There were no corrections on the June minutes or the minutes from past meetings. All back minutes were approved.

- Action: IFLA HQ to post minutes on the IFLA website

3. WLIC 2022 CCH Sessions

The committee's Open Session was discussed a final time. Additionally, the committee's planned meeting with the Regional Divisions was explained.

Helen was thanked for her work on the Open Session.

4. Improving committee participation

It was agreed that parallel meetings in different time zones doesn't work. One meeting is preferable.

It was reiterated that the committee needs 5 out of 9 elected committee members to form a quorum.

One roadblock to participation that was identified was communication. It was noted that several members are not receiving mails circulated via the committee's mailing list. A resulting action noted by HQ is to look into issues with the mailing list, while in the future, communicated through both regular email as well as through Basecamp.

It was decided that the committee should look into asynchronous work – in which a period where members can follow-up on action points within a designated window before/after meetings.

Further, it was stressed that those members who cannot attend meeting should designate a proxy to ensure decisions can be made.

Future scheduling should share the burden of inconvenient time zones with all. However, given the geographic spread, it was noted late afternoon European time usually is most suitable. Meetings will continue to be scheduled once every two months.

Note: Professional Unit Chairs do not serve in a personal capacity and can designate an alternate from their committee to represent them.

The committee was reminded they can co-opt experts if needed.

Actions:

- IFLA HQ will solve communication problem with mailing list, ensure everyone receives emails and send meeting information through multiple channels
- IFLA HQ to post all information on Basecamp going forward
- Future meetings will only have one meeting time, not two. The time zones will vary to share the burden of time zones.
- Future meetings will allow for asynchronous way of participating, with specifics to be confirmed

5. Implementing the Action Plan

In discussing implementation of the Action Plan, it was reenforced that the role of this committee is to advise the GB.

Professional Units do a lot of great work – this committee shouldn't duplicate work that is better suited for the Units. Rather, this committee can be a conduit by which Units can reach the GB on recommendations or with suggestions.

This committee is well suited to provide this advice to the GB, as members of the GB may not know what key issues in cultural heritage are, or how they affect the library field.

With this context, the committee was asked to decide on which topics to take forward. Only topics on which specific members will take action should be included in the action plan.

It was felt by some the action plan has too many ideas and required more focussed work.

There should be collaboration between this committee and professional units – where their work feeds into the work of the committee.

Risk Register

- Issue lead: IFLA HQ
- Goal: to raise awareness, increase registrations

A Virtual event was discussed, perhaps in coordination with ICA. It was noted ILAB would also be interested in taking part. P&C Section offered to help.

It was noted this would be most appropriate for CCH to host, as it would include partnership with other organisations. CCH can use branding as advisory committee to bring awareness to this issue as being of wider interest to all libraries.

It was decided that this could be a part of a trio of webinars on registering collections.

1. Webinar with ICA on registering collections
2. Webinar with ILAB on actions to take if material is stolen
3. Webinar with Memory of the World on celebrating and amplifying collections (makes sense for Autumn 2023 given MoW's nomination cycle)

Action: start work on organising this series.

Responsibility: to be led by relevant committee liaisons.

Heritage & Climate Change

- Issue Leads: Helen and Cecilia
- Goal: Ensure libraries and collections are included in discussion on heritage and climate change

The role of CCH in this topic was noted to be bringing various work in this area together and giving it a higher profile – it is not just of interest to specialists.

The WLIC Open Session was the first awareness raising activity in this action area.

The next step is to explore a position paper, with a drafting session to follow WLIC. This might need to include a survey or desktop research to bring together ideas of what others are doing.

It was noted that Europeana is doing a survey this year about climate and digital preservation, so maybe it is not the best time for a survey.

Work that has been done in the Library Buildings and Equipment Section on the technical aspect of this topic. It was noted that bringing in the work carried out by this section and ENSULIB would be important.

PAC North America noted they get a lot of questions on planning storage environments. These are not about lowering climate impact directly, but they can question on the resilience of collections, and PAC Centres may not be able to provide all necessary resources.

It would be interesting to see if other PAC Centres have such questions.

Actions:

- A drafting committee will begin working on a position paper following the conference session. Responsibility: Helen and Cecilia
- Dorothea to review what has been done by Building Section for relevant input
- PAC to add a discussion point on whether the topic of resilience and adaptation are being directed to the PAC business meeting. To determine if questions on changes due to climate change are being directed to PACs.

Library Collections to inspire cultural diversity

It was suggested that perhaps engagement on this issue includes monitoring and identifying where IFLA could work with external and internal partners in the future.

ACTION :

- Carlos and Rashida are asked to re-evaluate possible activities for feasibility, and come with a proposal for clear actions. This might be deferred to future activities. Response is requested by August committee meeting.

Build relationship with regional structure

Action was taken by setting up an informal business meeting with the Regional Division Committee and Regional Council Chairs at WLIC 2022.

Follow-up is dependent on meeting.

Linguistic Diversity

The committee recognised that this is an important topic, but that it is being led by the Indigenous Matters Section.

- Decision: the role of the committee therefore is to allow IM to lead and look for ways to amplify their work and offer a direct line to the GB with recommendations. There is the possibility for a lot of dialogue with UNESCO in the future.

Memory of the World

IFLA's liaison to the Register Sub-committee reported that the nomination process is back in action. There are 90 nominations to review, and announcements for new inscriptions to the international MoW list are expected in April 2023.

It was noted that this committee must think about succession planning, as the current representative will be finished with his term in November 2023.

It is recommended by the current and immediate past liaisons to this committee that would be beneficial for IFLA to name a long-standing representative to MoW – longer than a two-year membership to this committee. It was suggested that someone needs to remain in this role for at least two nomination cycles to be most effective.

Therefore, this committee might suggest such an action to the GB.

Theft and trafficking

Goal: Coordinating work, finding opportunities, advise GB

A report has been produced on work in this area, Daryl, Helen and Stephane (PAC Qatar) were thanked for this. The report will be sent to the committee in August for approval and then to the GB. It recommends actions for IFLA to take.

It was inquired what follow up the committee can expect from the GB on such a report. IFLA HQ will follow up with GB response. IFLA HQ noted they should expect a response regarding recommended actions, and otherwise they will read and note the information.

It was noted that UNESCO is advising guidelines for people who deal in antiques and that this is an action IFLA can respond to. The deadline is November 2022.

Action:

- Report to be sent to committee for review
- Follow up required on UNESCO consultation on guidelines

Repatriation – issue monitoring

It was discussed whether the committee will want to explore a position statement, as there are different perspectives in the library field.

It was noted that the committee should focus on monitoring. Are there cases impacting libraries that are coming up? What are the current developments? The GB might be interested in information on this.

It will need to be determined if IFLA should have a stronger position on this topic. This is with the awareness that there are great differences in perspective at a global level.

It was noted that there is much more activity on this topic within ICOM and the museum world. However, activity in the museum world may lead to trends in the library field. It was suggested that IFLA's engagement remains focussed on documentary heritage.

Further, there is a relationship with trafficking. We should ensure that specificities around books – that they were meant to be traded – is included in this discourse.

Given this, it was suggested that a helpful output would be a trend report. This could be a yearly overview in terms of repatriation news, activity, emerging issues, and key cases. This could come in handy, as IFLA may be asked at some point to comment.

IFLA HQ can help connect with PAC Centres and Regional Divisions, as this could be a resource for gaining wider perspectives.

It was suggested an informal exchange to explore the idea of a trend report should be included in a future meeting.

- ACTION: Dorothea and Ry to work out talking points for discussion.

Digitisation and Digital Preservation

This was a key area during the IFLA Global Vision discussion, in terms of reviewing what material is available and leading to a global conference or summit.

We shouldn't lose sight of this issue, but there is not capacity to take action now.

If there is interest on the committee, one monitoring report could be an action. To be shared in the "resources" section of the website and promoted by IFLA. This would take several people to carry out.

ACTION: Check with Digital Scholarship SIG on activity in this area

Responsibility: committee is asked if they have a connection with those working in this SIG. If not, IFLA HQ can make contact on behalf of committee.

6. Updates from Sections

Rare Books Special Collections: organised a session on exhibitions with Preservation and Conservation Section. Will do a talking stick session on Object ID as a standard that does not work for libraries.

National Libraries: WLIC session on defining the national collection, will follow up with a webinar in September.

PAC: noted the IFLA Journal special issue – IFLA Journal Preservation Storage and Curation Strategies. The goal was to represent as many regions and cultural specificities as possible.

P&C: held a Satellite meeting with ENSULIB on environmental sustainability. Noted work on preservation conservation and open science as well as with the Library History SIG, who are interviewing for work regarding a history of IFLA.

- Action: Russell will talk to ENSULIB about the work this committee is doing on culture and climate. Russell will put the programme on Basecamp and a summary.

AOB

Silvia Stasselova stated interest in hosting an event in the coming year. We will need to see how members feel about travelling outside of travel for WLIC. She was thanked for her generous offer.

Meeting closed.