

2021-2022 Unit Annual Report Form

Unit Information

Please make any needed changes to the information below:

Unit Name

Metropolitan Libraries Section

Unit Chair

Carolyn Anthony

Unit Chair Email

Carolynanthony73@gmail.com

Unit Secretary

Lucia Werder

Unit Secretary Email

lucia.werder@stadtbibliothek.bremen.de

Unit Information Coordinator

Nick Buron

Unit Information Coordinator Email

Nick.Buron@queenslibrary.org

Division Committee Chair

Leslie Weir

Division Committee Chair Email

leslie.weir@bac-lac.gc.ca

Unit Member Contributions

Please describe the contributions of the Unit members

Role

Chair

Name of Unit member

Carolyn Anthony

Contributions

The Chair presided over 7 meetings of the Standing Committee. She convened the Impact Working Group and wrote a brief (3 page) article on Considerations re Data Collection and Impact Measurement in Metropolitan Public Libraries, giving background on MetLib's activity re the topic so that members of the Impact Working Group would all be on the same page. She solicited co-sponsorship of the Statistics and Evaluation Section for the development of a survey on impact measurement and, with help from others in the Working Group and the Statistics and Evaluation Section, she put together the panel of speakers for MetLib's WLIC 2022 program on the "Current Status of Impact Measurement in Libraries."

Carolyn also contributed to development of MetLib's other program for WLIC 2022 "The Impact of the Library in Democratic Societies" and introduced that program.

She served on the Conference Planning Committee for MetLib's Conference in Oslo in May 2022, though Covid prevented her from attending the event.

She got approval from the Standing Committee to employ the co-opting process to fill a vacancy on the Standing Committee and to pursue termination for three SC members who had not attended a meeting or responded to any communication as of March 2022. Carolyn sent email letters to the three and got a response back from one, indicating that she still wished to serve and committed to be more involved. Carolyn got permission to issue a call for interested persons to serve on the SC from which we got 6 inquiries re three spots. She discussed the options with fellow officers and the Division A Chair and then proceeded to confirm the three successful candidates and inform those not selected. Carolyn participated in meetings of Division A, attended WLIC in Dublin, completed a Plan of Action and had it approved by the SC, prepared an end-of-year update and now this Annual Report.

Role

Secretary

Name of Unit member

Lucia Werder

Contributions

Lucia issued and agenda and prepared minutes of all meetings of the Standing Committee and made changes to the minutes as requested. She was an active officer, responding in a timely way to all requests for input and speaking up re issues and proposals. She attended the MetLib Conference in Oslo in May 2022. She also served on the Engagement Working Group.

Role

Information Coordinator

Name of Unit member

Nick Buron

Contributions

Nick did an extraordinary job of communicating in a timely way, posting minutes and sending out announcements and IFLA news when appropriate. Members of the SC mentioned that communication has been much better this year than previously. He led the Engagement Work Group and obtained updates on MetLib membership. Nick was actively engaged in making suggestions re MetLib work. He made sure that new SC members were added to mailing rosters and both authorized and oriented for Basecamp use. Nick responded very promptly to all emails.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Ton Van Vlimmeren

Contributions

Ton Van Vlimmeren was an active member of the Impact Working Group. He shared two papers he had written for the benefit of the group. He proposed the topic of "The Impact of Libraries in a Democratic Society" for the MetLib program for WLIC 2022 and delivered one of three papers at the program. Ton also actively worked to find libraries interested in hosting future MetLib conferences, contacting several individuals, providing information re what hosting entails, and following up. He thought it important to membership growth and engagement that people know well in advance the plan for future MetLib conferences. Having served a number of years on MetLib, Ton often provided background to Section discussions.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Moe Hosseini Ara

Contributions

Moe served on the Impact Working Group and was active in providing information re the Canadian experience with outcome and impact measurement in libraries. He secured the participation of his boss Vickery Bowles, City Librarian of Toronto, in the MetLib program on "The Impact of Libraries in a Democratic Society," proposed the title for the program and prepared the write-up for IFLA approval of the program.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Mathilde Servet

Contributions

Mathilde Servet served on the Public Library of the Year Selection Committee. She was an active and vocal participant in SC meetings. She responded to an announcement re innovative library programs from the International Relations Round Table of ALA by nominating a French library for the award. That library received the award and was recognized at the ALA's Annual Conference in June in Washington, D.C.

Role

Convenor

Name of Unit member

Knut Skansen

Contributions

Knut Skansen agreed to have the Deichman Library of Oslo host MetLib's Conference in May 2022. This plan was not finally approved until September 2021 so he had a short time to put the Conference together. Knut successfully presided over the Conference Program Planning Committee and organized his staff to make local arrangements for meals and tours. The Conference was rated as a great success, attracting 125 participants.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Brian Bannon

Contributions

Brian Bannon was an active member of the Program Planning Committee for the MetLib Conference, providing communications, virtual scheduling, minutes from meetings and technical support to the operation. He also recruited speakers. In a follow-up with keynote speaker Tommi Laitio, Brian helped develop the proposal for MetLib Learning Circles: Skills for Partnerships which was enthusiastically approved by the SC for a Section activity in 2022 - 2023.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Neeza Singh

Contributions

Neeza was an active participant in the Impact Working Group and regularly contributed in SC meetings. She presented at the MetLib Conference in Oslo based on her INELLI experience in a program that was among the most praised of the Conference.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Flippie Van der Walt

Contributions

Flippie was one of two representatives from MetLib to the Public Library of the Year Selection Committee. He regularly participated in SC meetings. He investigated the possibility of Cape Town hosting a MetLib Conference, but was discouraged by his city.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Eman Alshamari

Contributions

Eman was a regular participant in SC meetings. She solicited presenters for MetLib programs and offered helpful input.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

Katri Vanttinen

Contributions

Katri was an active contributor to the Program Planning Committee for the MetLib Conference. She suggested and recruited the participation of Tommi Laitio of Helsinki as the keynote speaker. She also shared from her experience in hosting the conference in Helsinki and has again volunteered to work with the committee planning the conference for Buenos Aires in 2023.

Role

Member

Name of Unit member

John Spears

Contributions

John Spears coordinated the public library short film awards program, working with the Italian library group that runs the competition. He also volunteered to coordinate MetLib response to the proposed Manifesto on Libraries and Lifelong Learning.

Please indicate any changes to Committee membership during 2021-2022

With approval from Division A, Chao Chen and Hu Hairong were dropped as non-participating members. Carme Galve Montore, Pablo Bruno D'Amico, and Cao Shong were added to the SC through the Co-Opting process. The three were selected from among six applicants after an open call.

Standing/SIG Committee Meetings

Please provide information about your 2021-22 Standing Committee Meetings:**Meeting date (dd/mm/yyyy)**

07/10/2021

How was this meeting held

Virtual (Zoom/Skype/Teams etc.)

What were this meeting's main outcomes?

We had seven meetings throughout the year. In addition to the Oct meeting, we met 09/12/2021, 10/02/2022, 19/05/2022, 09/06/2022, 25/07/2022 and 22/09/2022. All meetings were virtual with the exception of the meetings of May 19 and July 25 which were hybrid. The meetings served to advance plans for the MetLib Conference, hear reports from the Working Groups and develop program plans for WLIC.

Have the minutes for this meeting been uploaded to the Repository?

Yes

Successes/Accomplishments/Achievements

Briefly describe the project, activity, or output you accomplished during the period August 2021 - August 2022

Details

An accomplishment was to populate the Committee with active and engaged members, by terminating two inactive members and filling those vacancies as well as an existing vacancy after the 2021 election.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

Details

MetLib held a very successful conference in Oslo May 17 - 20, 2022, on the theme "Fostering Resilient Cities." There were 125 attendees including a number of Scandinavians who do not often get to MetLib or IFLA gatherings. On the heels of Covid and with some members unable to attend due to illness or travel restrictions, it was an accomplishment to get such a turnout and to have enthusiastic evaluations of the event.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

Details

MetLib presented two successful programs at WLIC 2022, one of which was co-sponsored with the Statistics and Evaluation Section. "The Impact of Libraries in a Democratic Society" elicited many comments at the conclusion and a recommendation that the topic was worthy of a day-long event with opportunity for discussion at round tables. The program was cited by other speakers during the balance of WLIC. The program on "A Status Report on Impact Measurement in Libraries" forged a partnership with the Statistics and Evaluation Section that is continuing with plans for a more robust survey in winter 2022 - 2023.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

Communications

How have you communicated your Unit's work to the following stakeholders?

	Unit members	General IFLA members	Section members	The field at large
Newsletter				
Webpage	X	X	X	X
Blog post				
Mailing list	X		X	
Social Media				
Basecamp	X	X		

Please comment on any communication or partnerships outside of your own Standing Committee

MetLib entered into a partnership with the Statistics and Evaluation Section for a program at WLIC 2022 and for ongoing work re the assessment of outcomes in libraries.

Additional Information

Did you receive Professional Council funding for 2021-2022?

No

Please use this space to provide any additional information you would like to share about the Unit's activities for the year:

The Standing Committee has developed a cohesion this past year and had active participation from more members than in prior years. There is enthusiasm re MetLib's activities, both in this past year and those proposed for the coming year.

Division Committee Chair Review

The Division Chair has approved the 2021-2022 Annual Report

Yes

Division Chair Comments: