



**Library History  
Special Interest  
Group**

## **Action Plan 2021-2023**

### **Unit Information**

**Unit Name**

Library History Special Interest Group

**Unit Chair**

Anna Maria Tammaro

**Unit Chair Email**

annamaria.tammaro@unipr.it

**Division Chair**

Jan Richards

**Division Chair Email**

jan@janrichards.com.au

### **Strategic Direction 2 - Inspire and Enhance Professional Practice**

#### **Strategic Direction 2 Activities/Outputs**

#### **Activity/Output Description**

**Activity/Output - e.g. Unit Guidelines, Workshop Series, etc.**

Oral histories

**Activity/Output Category (most closely matched)**

Database/Register/Map

**Please provide a brief description of the activity/output:**

Since 2018 the SIG has been planning to record oral histories for persons associated with IFLA's history. Three groups of interviewees have been identified:

- IFLA President
- IFLA Secretaries General
- Other significant IFLA personalities

**Activity/Output type**

Continuation of an ongoing activity

**This activity/output is matched most closely with which Key Initiative?**

2.1 Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession

**Completion status as of today - Beginning of cycle**

Less than 50% complete

**Expected completion month**

August

**Expected completion year**

2023

**Names of Standing Committee members who will be working on this activity/output:**

Anna Maria Tammaro, Italy  
Polly Boruff-Jones, USA (boruffjones[@]oakland.edu)  
Lei Wang, China  
Parisa Pasyar, Iran  
Hibaq Nur, Qatar (hibaq.nur[@]outlook.com)  
Peter Lor, South Africa  
Ahava Cohen, Israel  
Kaisa Sinikara, Finland

## Activity/Output Context

**What need is this activity/output filling or what problem will be solved for your sector?**

Assess and develop oral histories from librarians around the world: what has been done, what is being done; what needs to be done.

**Target group(s)**

The library and information field as a whole

**What will the outcome for the target group be as a result of the work described?**

Gained knowledge/awareness/understanding  
Resources created and saved

**How will this activity/outcome move the Unit's sector forward?**

Encourage the celebration of libraries and their history

**How will you measure the performance and impact of your work?**

Survey

## Activity/Output Collaborations

**IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Preservation and Conservation

**Status of collaboration**

Confirmed

**IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Acquisition and Collection Development

**Status of collaboration**

Proposed

**Status of Collaboration**

Potential

**List any confirmed external collaborators**

Russel Lynch Preservation and Conservation Section

**List any potential external collaborators**

Jeannie Bail Marketing and Management Section

Lilly Ho Acquisition and Collection Development Section

**Please list any additional collaborators and the status of the collaboration below:**

Martha Attridge Bufton  
Patrik Urru  
Jeffrey Willhite

## Activity/Output Communication

**How will you communicate this output to your stakeholders?**

WLIC Session  
Social Media  
Website, Blog post, news item

## Activity/Output Updates - Return to this section by the dates below to provide a status update for this output.

**2022 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2022?**

Less than 50% complete

**Any information to add about this March 2022 Update?**

IFLA Presidents interviewed: Ellen Tise, Ingrid Parent, Christine MacKenzie.  
Peter Lor reported on a trial run, with Sjoerd Koopman interviewing him.

**2022 Mid-cycle Action Plan - What is the completion status as of 1 October, 2022?**

Less than 50% complete

**Any information to add about this October 2022 Update?**

A working group, including interested members of other professional units, was appointed to examine these and provide specific procedural guidelines for the project.

Interview completed: Sinikka Sipilä.

The untimely death of former IFLA President Donna Scheeder has underlined the importance and urgency of recording oral histories. In response to a request on IFLA-L, some material on Donna's service to IFLA has been collected with a view to creating a virtual memorial

**Please describe any major changes/adjustments from initial 2021-23 Action Plan.**

Members must be encouraged to provide information about history projects in their countries so that we can use our blog & media to publicize them.

**2023 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2023?**

**Any information to add about this March 2023 Update?**

**End of cycle - What is the completion status as of 1 August, 2023?**

## Activity/Output Description

**Activity/Output - e.g. Unit Guidelines, Workshop Series, etc.**

Book publication to mark the IFLA centenary

**Activity/Output Category (most closely matched)**

**If you have a new category to add, please contact [professionalsupport@ifla.org](mailto:professionalsupport@ifla.org)**

Publication (Report, Best Practices, Book, Journal Article)

**Please provide a brief description of the activity/output:**

Officially IFLA traces its founding to a meeting held in Edinburgh in September 1927. Therefore, we have five years to prepare for IFLA's centenary. As IFLA's primary professional unit concerned with library history, the Library History Special Interest Group (LibHist SIG) wishes to play a role in preparing for the celebration. The SIG proposes to compile and edit a book of contributed chapters on IFLA. Chapters will be solicited through a call for chapters. We will put together a planning committee which will seek contributions on the history of selected professional units and on selected historical themes. A broad framework will be drawn up, and intending authors will be invited to write essays of a scholarly nature. It is envisaged that an authors' seminar will be held in 2025, to which authors will be invited to submit their draft chapters. Authors of the selected chapters will then be asked to revise their work and submit their chapters by February 2026. An editorial panel will review the chapters, make a final selection, and oversee their final revision for submission to De Gruyter for publication and launch at the centenary WLIC in 2027.

### **Activity/Output type**

New activity or initiative

### **This activity/output is matched most closely with which Key Initiative?**

2.1 Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession

### **Completion status as of today - Beginning of cycle**

Not started

### **Expected completion month**

August

### **Expected completion year**

Other - Write In: 2027

### **Names of Standing Committee members who will be working on this activity/output:**

Anna Maria Tamaro, Peter Lor, Steve Witt

## **Activity/Output Context**

### **What need is this activity/output filling or what problem will be solved for your sector?**

SIG Library History to work out next steps in working with colleagues around the world on capturing IFLA's role and impact on libraries and information science.

### **Target group(s)**

The library and information field as a whole

### **What will the outcome for the target group be as a result of the work described?**

Gained knowledge/awareness/understanding

### **How will this activity/outcome move the Unit's sector forward?**

A centenary is an appropriate time to assess and celebrate the history and achievements of an organization such as IFLA and a centenary book will engage the profession around the world

### **How will you measure the performance and impact of your work?**

Other - Write In: Publication impact

## **Activity/Output Collaborations**

### **IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Cataloguing

### **Status of collaboration**

Proposed

### **IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Local History & Genealogy

**Status of collaboration**

Proposed

**IFLA Regional Structure collaborators**

**Status of Collaboration**

**List any confirmed external collaborators**

Jeffrey Wilhite and Steve Witt.

**List any potential external collaborators**

Please list any additional collaborators and the status of the collaboration below:

## **Activity/Output Communication**

**How will you communicate this output to your stakeholders?**

Publication (Professional Report, guideline)

WLIC Session

Website, Blog post, news item

## **Activity/Output Updates - Return to this section by the dates below to provide a status update for this output.**

**2022 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2022?**

Not yet started

**Any information to add about this March 2022 Update?**

**2022 Mid-cycle Action Plan - What is the completion status as of 1 October, 2022?**

First phase: archives research

**Any information to add about this October 2022 Update?**

Planning Committee for the IFLA History Book: finalize details for the application of approval and funding to be submitted to the Professional Committee on 31 August.

**Please describe any major changes/adjustments from initial 2021-23 Action Plan.**

**2023 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2023?**

**Any information to add about this March 2023 Update?**

**End of cycle - What is the completion status as of 1 August, 2023?**

## **Activity/Output Description**

**Activity/Output - e.g. Unit Guidelines, Workshop Series, etc.**

Popular celebratory book

**Activity/Output Category (most closely matched)**

**If you have a new category to add, please contact [professionalsupport@ifla.org](mailto:professionalsupport@ifla.org)**

Publication (Report, Best Practices, Book, Journal Article)

**Please provide a brief description of the activity/output:**

Discussion at the SIG's open session at this year's WLIC indicated that, in addition to a scholarly book, there is a demand for a more popular celebratory publication, possibly in the form of an e-book, with less formal content, for example, reminiscences of IFLA personalities, photographs, sound clips and video clips. The SIG suggest that one or more professional units such as the Management and Marketing Section and the Management of Library Associations Section be invited to work in collaboration with the SIG.

**Activity/Output type**

New activity or initiative

**This activity/output is matched most closely with which Key Initiative?**

2.1 Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession

**Completion status as of today - Beginning of cycle**

Not started

**Expected completion month**

August

**Expected completion year**

Other - Write In: 2027

**Names of Standing Committee members who will be working on this activity/output:**

Anna Maria Tamaro, Italy  
Polly Boruff-Jones, USA (boruffjones[[@](mailto:boruffjones@oakland.edu)]oakland.edu)  
Lei Wang, China  
Parisa Pasyar, Iran  
Hibaq Nur, Qatar (hibaq.nur[[@](mailto:hibaq.nur@outlook.com)]outlook.com)  
Peter Lor, South Africa  
Ahava Cohen, Israel  
Kaisa Sinikara, Finland

**Activity/Output Context**

**What need is this activity/output filling or what problem will be solved for your sector?** SIG to work out next steps in working with colleagues around the world on capturing librarian's histories

**Target group(s)**

The library and information field as a whole

**What will the outcome for the target group be as a result of the work described?**

Gained knowledge/awareness/understanding

**How will this activity/outcome move the Unit's sector forward?**

Work out the best way to store librarians histories as they are captured.

**How will you measure the performance and impact of your work?**

Other - Write In: Its success could be measured by how many visitors the site had and/or how many new oral history projects are added to the site.

**Activity/Output Collaborations**

**IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Cataloguing

### **Status of collaboration**

Potential

### **IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

Management and Marketing

### **Status of collaboration**

Proposed

### **IFLA Regional Structure collaborators**

### **Status of Collaboration**

List any confirmed external collaborators

List any potential external collaborators

Please list any additional collaborators and the status of the collaboration below:

## **Activity/Output Communication**

How will you communicate this output to your stakeholders?

Publication (Professional Report, guideline)

WLIC Session

Social Media

Website, Blog post, news item

## **Activity/Output Updates - Return to this section by the dates below to provide a status update for this output.**

**2022 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2022?**

Not yet started

**Any information to add about this March 2022 Update?**

**2022 Mid-cycle Action Plan - What is the completion status as of 1 October, 2022?**

Not yet started

**Any information to add about this October 2022 Update?**

**Please describe any major changes/adjustments from initial 2021-23 Action Plan.**

**2023 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2023?**

2022-2023 Output

**Any information to add about this March 2023 Update?**

**End of cycle - What is the completion status as of 1 August, 2023?**

## **Activity/Output Description**

**Activity/Output - e.g. Unit Guidelines, Workshop Series, etc.**

WLIC Session and Satellite

**Activity/Output Category (most closely matched)**

**If you have a new category to add, please contact [professionalsupport@ifla.org](mailto:professionalsupport@ifla.org)**

WLIC Session

**Please provide a brief description of the activity/output:**

Steve Witt volunteered for chair the WLIC 2023 Planning Committee. Parisa Pasyar, will chair the Planning Committee for WLIC 2024. Each year awareness of the coming IFLA centenary should be raised.

**Activity/Output type**

New activity or initiative

**This activity/output is matched most closely with which Key Initiative?**

2.2 Deliver high quality campaigns, information and other communications products on a regular basis to engage and energise libraries

**Completion status as of today - Beginning of cycle**

Just started

**Expected completion month**

July

**Expected completion year**

2023

**Names of Standing Committee members who will be working on this activity/output:**

Parisa Pasyar,  
Steve Witt

## **Activity/Output Context**

**What need is this activity/output filling or what problem will be solved for your sector?**

All of IFLA's professional units should be made aware of the Centenary projects.

**Target group(s)**

The library and information field as a whole

**What will the outcome for the target group be as a result of the work described?**

Gained knowledge/awareness/understanding

**How will this activity/outcome move the Unit's sector forward?**

Members must be encouraged to provide information about history projects

**How will you measure the performance and impact of your work?**

Survey

## **Activity/Output Collaborations**

**IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

**Status of collaboration**

**IFLA Professional Structure collaborators**

**Status of collaboration**



**IFLA Regional Structure collaborators  
Status of Collaboration**

List any confirmed external collaborators

List any potential external collaborators

Please list any additional collaborators and the status of the collaboration below:

## **Activity/Output Communication**

How will you communicate this output to your stakeholders?

WLIC Session  
Social Media  
Website, Blog post, news item

## **Activity/Output Updates - Return to this section by the dates below to provide a status update for this output.**

**2022 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2022?**

Not yet started

Any information to add about this March 2022 Update?

**2022 Mid-cycle Action Plan - What is the completion status as of 1 October, 2022?**

Not yet started

Any information to add about this October 2022 Update?

Please describe any major changes/adjustments from the initial 2021-23 Action Plan.

**2023 Mid-term Update - What is the completion status as of 15 March, 2023?**

Any information to add about this March 2023 Update?

**End of cycle - What is the completion status as of 1 August, 2023?**

## **Activity/Output Description**

Activity/Output - e.g. Unit Guidelines, Workshop Series, etc.

Satellite

Activity/Output Category (most closely matched)

If you have a new category to add, please contact [professionalsupport@ifla.org](mailto:professionalsupport@ifla.org)

Please provide a brief description of the activity/output:

Preparatory satellite conference: Possibly in 2025, for chapter authors of the scholarly publication to present their papers and receive feedback, after which they can produce their final chapter versions]

Activity/Output type

This activity/output is matched most closely with which Key Initiative?

Completion status as of today - Beginning of cycle  
Expected completion month

Expected completion year

Names of Standing Committee members who will be working on this activity/output:

## Professional Council (PC) Funding

Would you like to submit a funding proposal?

Yes, for 2022-2023

## 2022-2023 PC Funding Proposal

**Please review the Guidelines for Professional Council Funding before starting your proposal.**

For which output would you like to request funding?

IFLA Centenary Book

The Professional Council funding requests are typically approved for amounts between 400€ to 3000€.

What amount is the Unit requesting?

€2000

Category for which funds are requested

Project Support

**Please provide detail on why funding is required and how the funding will be used.**

As IFLA's primary professional unit concerned with library history, the SIG proposes to compile and edit a book of contributed chapters on IFLA. Chapters will be solicited through a call for chapters to update the book published in 1977 to celebrate IFLA's first half-century (Koops and Wieder 1977).

In preparation for the IFLA Centenary in 2027, the Library History Special Interest Group seeks institutional and potential financial support from IFLA for activities that would lead toward an edited historical volume that will celebrate IFLA's many contributions to the library movement and global society over the past 100 years. The SIG asks 2,000 Euros to support funding for competitive research travel grants of up to 500 euros each to encourage and enable scholars to access and utilise the multiple archival resources associated with IFLA, its congresses, and the many librarians that have contributed to the federation over the past century.

**Please provide a budget forecast for requested funds**

	Amount in €	To be spent on?	By which month year?
1	2000	Travel grants	January 2023
2			
3			
4			
5			

**Sustainability plan**

Will seek outside funding to continue project

**Any information to add?**

Outside of IFLA, the SIG will additionally seek co-sponsorship funding and additional in-kind support from other institutions and historical societies to supplement and enrich the Centenary history work. Foundations such as Rockefeller and the Carnegie Endowment were instrumental in the founding and early development of IFLA and may be interested in supporting work that highlights their contributions to the success of IFLA. The SIG will also reach out to allied associations that maintain strong history sections such as ASIS&T, ALA and CILIP to secure interest and support for the project.