

We Are IFLA!

Welcome to the Second Issue of the IFLA Division F Newsletter



Helen M. Y. Chan
The University of Hong Kong
China
Email:

helenmyc331@gmail.com







A Thank You Card from a Division F member in Dublin.

Message from the Professional Division Committee Chair (Division F)

By Helen Man Yi CHAN

Dear IFLA colleagues and friends,

Thank You for joining the IFLA WLIC 2022. I am writing to extend my appreciation of your generous support for the section activities, especially those from Division F. Your invaluable participation and contribution have made the Congress a resounding success.

We have provided a professional platform for our field to share and collaborate towards the vision of IFLA,

'A strong and united global library field powering literate, informed and participatory societies.'

To organise the Congress with different changes in uncertain times has never been easy. I can't say thank enough to the IFLA HQ staff and Professional Council Committee Members from different parts of the world who put their tremendous effort to make WLIC 2022 a very successful one. This would only be possible with the unparalleled supports from different stakeholders including the IFLA members and volunteers. Many thanks for the talent, wisdom and capabilities of everyone which make the impossible possible.

The 88th WLIC would be the last Congress for me to present on behalf of Division F as I would complete my two-year term as the Professional Division Committee Chair of the Division in August 2023. No matter who would take up my role and I am sure the new chair of the Division would bring new sparks, prepare the Division to celebrate IFLA's Centenary in 2027, and lead the Division to new heights.

Once again, many thanks for your continuous support and I look forward to seeing you at IFLA WLIC 2023.

Wish you and your family a joyful and fruitful 2023!



LILLY HOI SZE HO

Secretary,
Division F;
Chair,
Acquisition and Collection Development Section
Library and Archives NT
Australia
Email: lillyho@gmail.com

This IFLA Congress was my fifth to attend since 2017 and as always, it was educational and inspirational. I was pleased to see all standing committee members of the Acquisition and Collection Development Section and the international colleagues again in person at Dublin, Ireland after Athens, Greece. As an IFLA chair, I was invited to the Officers Reception and Dinner at Trinity College. I was impressed by the Book of Kells, the medieval Christian manuscript and the Long Room in the Old Library of the college which was established in 1592. I was lucky to share the dining table with the Governing Board Member and ex-Presidents throughout the whole evening. I learnt more about IFLA's vision and mission to the library field and the officer roles in support of IFLA. During the cultural evening, I had a one-on-one conversation with Helen Mandl, Acting Secretary General. It was a valuable lesson for me to learn about her work with IFLA and her officer journey. The more I know about IFLA, the greater support I give IFLA. We are IFLA!



RUSSELL LYNCH
Chair,
Preservation and Conservation Section
Family History Library
United States
Email: lynchrs@familysearch.org

The Professional Support Officer, Megan Price, is quick to answer questions and provide information to section officers. She has been a terrific support to me. WLIC 2022 in Dublin was a wonderful experience! I enjoyed meeting standing committee members in person for the first time. I met others from Division F and affiliated sections. It was great to renew friendships from years past as well.



THOMAS CHAIMBAULT-PETIT JEAN
Convenor,
LGBTQ+UsersSIG
National Superior School of Information Science and Libraries
France
Email:thomas.chaimbault@enssib.fi

The IFLA Congress is an extraordinary moment that allows us to meet many professionals, to discover new solutions, examples and motivating activities, and gives us full energy and dynamism for the future. It's always a pleasure to participate.



KARIN BYSTRÖM
Secretary,
Acquisition and Collection Development Section
Uppsala University Library
Sweden
Email:karin.bystrom@ub.uu.se

During this year's WLIC I especially appreciated the new format of "talking stick" sessions - informal discussions about a specific theme. I attended the session on Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) and it really gave me the opportunity to meet people with the same interest and get a quick overview of the current practices and problems. The session was very popular and we were a larger group than planned, but it also showed the great interest of the topic. Many of us stayed after the session to exchange contact information and continue the discussion. For me it was an instant IFLA-moment where people from all over the world gather to discuss a new challenge together.



CÉLINE ALLAIN
Secretary,
Preservation and Conservation Section
National Library of Science
France
Email: celine.allain@bnf.fr

If Dublin "suddenly disappeared from the face of the earth, it could be rebuilt from (Ulysses)." The curtain raiser to the IFLA conference was a flash mob of 50 librarians reading excerpts from James Joyce's Ulysses in front of Trinity College, heralding the spirit of engagement that marked the three-day conference. "What can be done is never enough compared to what is needed" as a representative of EBLIDA reminded the first meeting of the European division of IFLA in front of the pictures of the 60 libraries destroyed in Ukraine since the beginning of the conflict on February 24. In the face of the devastating combination of conflict and climate change that is severely affecting library activities and heritage, many sessions demonstrated how libraries can be a driver of resilience, a knowledge asset, and a source of creativity and innovation. Conferences coordinated by ENSULIB provided feedback on the critical use of collections to raise awareness of climate change issues among young audiences. During the session "Exhibitions: Designed to Inspire and Engage" on July 26, organized by the Preservation and Conservation section and the Rare Books section, the National Library of France showed that temporary exhibitions can be designed in an eco-responsible way by reducing waste and developing the reuse of materials / supports. This intervention led to many exchanges with other libraries that are engaged in an identical approach.



SUSAN PARKER-LEAVY
Information Coordinator,
Art Libraries Section
Museum Of Islamic Art
Qatar
Email: sparker_leavy@me.com

It was great to meet so many wonderful people this year at IFLA in Dublin. I really appreciate so many of the people within both the HQ, Division F and the Art Libraries Section. Everyone is so ready to share their knowledge, expertise and friendship. A big shout out to: 1. Megan Price who always assist with everything technical. 2. Helen Chan for her dynamic energy and leadership and 3. Rana and Elsa who provide so much support to the Art Library Section. Great work everyone!



ELSA LOFTIS
Secretary,
Art Libraries Section
Portland State University Library
United States
Email: eloftis@pdx.edu

Thank you to the hard-working team at IFLA HQ! Having had the great pleasure to go to Dublin for WLIC 2022, I was once again reminded of the enormity and diversity of our federation. Sometimes all their work is unseen by the members, but the IFLA staff are a tremendous support network. They keep our organization going, and we are thankful!



DAVID TRÉFÁS
Standing Committee Member,
Acquisition and Collection Development Section
UB Basel
Schweiz
Email: david.trefas@unibas.ch

The most inspiring experience at WLIC 2022 was meeting my colleagues from the standing committee who I have worked with for some time but, due to the pandemic, had never had the chance to meet in person. The business meetings therefore provided us with an opportunity to get to know one another better. This led to a lively open session, and preparations could be made for our webinar we are organising for October. The IFLA Headquarter Staff did a very good job in organizing the WLIC under challenging conditions, and the warm and welcoming Irish hospitality contributed largely to a friendly atmosphere among the participants. Even though many of our colleagues were still unable to travel due to covid restrictions. I found it to be a worthwhile and enjoyable experience.

The Voice from the Members of Different Division F Units/SIGs: Only those who are willing to share their information will be included here.



ANDREW APPLEYARD
Standing Committee Member,
Document Delivery & Resource Sharing Section
The British Library
United Kingdom
Email: andy.appleyard@bl.uk

I attended the 17th IFLA Interlending and Document Supply Conference Sharing to Heal conference in two capacities - firstly as a member of the DDRS committee and secondly as a delegate eager at last to network with colleagues face to face. The location was amazing; such a beautiful venue, which, together with the massive welcome we received from QNL colleagues, made it a brilliant, experience both professionally and personally. The conference title 'sharing to heal' really said it all – inter-lending is built upon a spirit of collaboration between libraries and never was this more important than during lockdown. The DDRS committee continued to work throughout this period in a bid to help libraries maintain continuity and offer support in any way we could. Although it was a period most of us would like to forget, the good that came out of it was a reinforcing of those founding principles and of course, the Hermes project. I would like to mention Katia Medawar and Peter Collins who both worked so hard to make this event happen thank you both. I am so proud to be part of this committee and working with such amazing people with the ongoing sponsorship of IFLA, I hope we can continue to support libraries around the world.



OLIVERA NASTIC
Standing Committee Member,
Art Library Section
Belgrade City Library
Serbia
Email: olivera.nastic@gmail.com

This is the fourth IFLA WLIC I've attended. I'm sorry I couldn't be alive in Dublin this year. As a member of the Art librarian section, it was a pleasure for me to cooperate with the other members of the section when agreeing to organize this year's Satellite meeting. Thanks to this cooperation, I had a paper with my colleague Anelia Tüü from the Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest, within the Satellite Program. The name of our paper was The impact of researchers' use of social media on the role of art and museum librarians: a case study for Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, and Croatia.

The Voice from the Members of Different Division F Units/SIGs: Only those who are willing to share their information will be included here.



KATIA MEDAWAR
Standing Committee Member,
Document Delivery & Resource Sharing Section
Qatar National Library
Qatar
Email: kmedawar@qnl.qa

Through 2020 and 2021, I couldn't imagine ever again meeting my friends and colleagues in person in Dublin. That was what made the 87th IFLA World Library and Information Congress so special; it really was a breath of fresh air to meet, chat and even shake hands (!) with some of the 2,000 delegates from across the world. Seeing colleagues from the Document Delivery and Resource Sharing committee some of whom I hadn't seen for three years, others I had only spoken to online – added to the joy and excitement. It was a genuine pleasure to sit next to friends new and old and prepare for the forthcoming meetings without the need for Zoom, Teams or WhatsApp. The Congress itself was a pleasure brilliantly organized, from the content down to the signage, with knowledgeable volunteers, friendly IFLA staff members and great facilities. It was a time of new encounters and new experiences, particularly so at the gala night which featured Irish dancing, a play, a fire show and local food, all followed by everyone busting some moves on the dance floor! WLIC 2022 was a great event on all levels and really set the tone for WLIC 2023 in Rotterdam.



ANNA CASCONE
SIG Committee Member,
Religions: Libraries and Dialogue Special Interest
Group
Generalate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools

Email: acascone@lasalle.org

Being a librarian is a mission. But being with librarians is also at the heart of our profession. IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) provides us with encounter, dialogue, and knowledge. It allows us to get involved, and share the joys, fears, doubts and hopes of the profession. WLIC (World Library and Information Congress) 2022 has been the occasion, after a long time, to meet again with other experienced library professionals who finally find their space for discussion and sharing. Discussion and sharing at the international level, which makes is even more exciting. The afterconference was also very special because it allowed me to meet, at dinner as well as in the bar, colleagues from other units, fostering mutual understanding, and the promise to work together on the next library project. I can't wait to get started!

The Voice from the Members of Different Division F Units/SIGs: Only those who are willing to share their information will be included here.



ALEXANDER HARALDSVIK-LYNGSNES
Standing Committee Member,

Rare Books and Special Collections Section
Norwegian University of Science and Technology
(NTNU) University Library
Norway

Email: fagerheimlyngsnes@gmail.com Webpage: https://www.ntnu.edu/ub

I would like to say thank you to all IFLA staff for the work you do for libraries as an international community and for the support you give to the sections in their work. As a part of the world congress and the innumerable sessions, meetings, seminars, workshops and discussions you have been everywhere keeping track of business, engagements, proceedings and all the things section members do not even see. More importantly however, these past two years you have done all these things and more without even having the gratification of seeing what that work means for us, and for that we owe you heartfelt thanks. For my section's business I have mostly interacted with Claire McGuire and her support has been invaluable to us. Thank you Claire, and my thanks to everyone.



ORNELLA FOGLLIENI

Standing Committee Member, Preservation and Conservation Section Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB) Regione Lombardia, Culture Branch

taly Email: ofoglie@gmail.com

I am a Member elected of the Standing committee of Preservation and Conservation since 2019to 2023 first term. Engaged, since 2010-2016. I was Officer-Secretary, since 2013-2016. In 2021 I became the Chair of transition, working strictly with the Central Units and organizing the online session in the WLIC, still continuing the collaboration together with ENSULIB to the webinar in May and in 2022. Few projects concerning risks and disasters mitigation in libraries and best practices started together with central Units and more sections. This common activity reinforced also the daily work inspiring new initiatives on prevention and conservation locally in Libraries. What I learned gaining frequent contacts with colleagues of different countries and various competences became a power to increase and exchange of professional experiences. To meet new colleagues, following the IFLA WLICs and satellites, their various exciting manifestations, professional or in social events, produced exciting opportunities. More inclusion of IFLA members and clearer knowledge of the internal changes in the structures are necessary. During the satellite of ENSULIB in Cork, and in Dublin during the WLIC, I believe that IFLA Units got advantage from the individual knowledge of the members pushing a best quality of collaboration, awareness to inspire young professionals to increase advocacy, in library context.

Officers of Different Division F Units/ SIGs:



LILLY HOI SZE HO
Secretary, Division F;
Chair,
Acquisition and
Collection Development
Section
Library and Archives NT
Australia
Email:
lillyho@gmail.com



RANA ABDULRAHMAN
Chair,
Art Libraries Section
Qatar National Library
Qatar
Email:
rana.abdulrahman.15@
ucl.ac.uk



RUSSELL LYNCH
Chair,
Preservation and
Conservation Section
Family History Library
United States
Email:
lynchrs@familysearch.or
g



DARYL GREEN
Chair,
Rare Books and Special
Collections Section
University of Edinburgh
United Kingdom
Email:
daryl.green@ed.ac.uk
Twitter:
https://twitter.com/ilike
oldbooks



TINA BAICH
Chair,
Document Delivery &
Resource Sharing Section
IUPUI University Library,
Indianapolis, Indiana
USA
Email: cbaich@iupui.edu



PETIT JEAN

Convenor,

LGBTQ+ Users SIG

National Superior School
of Information Science
and Libraries

France

Email:
thomas.chaimbault@enssib
.ff

THOMAS CHAIMBAULT-



FABIEN
VANDERMARCQ
Convenor,
REDINDIAL SIG

REDINDIAL SIG Bibliothèque de Port-Royal Email: contact@bibport-royal.com



CELINE ALLAIN

Secretary,
Preservation and
Conservation Section
National Library of
Science France
Email:
celine.allain@bnf.fr



WILLIAM SCHAACK

Information
Coordinator,
Preservation and
Conservation Section
Digital Reformatting
Coordinator
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign
United States of
America
Email:
schlaac2@illinois.edu



ELSA LOFTIS

Secretary,
Art Libraries Section
Portland State University
Library United States
Email: eloftis@pdx.edu



SUSAN PARKER-LEAVY

Information
Coordinator,
Art Libraries Section
Museum Of Islamic Art
Qatar
Email:
sparker_leavy@me.co
m



NICOLE CLASEN

Secretary,
Document Delivery and
Resource Sharing Section
ZBW Leibni Information
Centre for Economics
Germany
Email: n.clasen@zbw.eu
Webpage:
https://www.zbw.eu/en/s
earch/borrowing/ni coleclasen



FILIZ EKKINGEN FLORES MAMONDI

Information
Coordinator,
Document Delivery and
Resource Sharing
Section
Boğaziçi University
Turkey
Email:
ekingen@boun.edu.tr



MAKESWARY PERIASAMY

Secretary,
Rare Books and Special
Collections Section
Senior Librarian
National Library
Singapore
Email:
makeswary_periasmy@nl
b.gov.sg



STEPHANIE STILLO
Information
Coordinator,
Rare Book and Special
Collections Section
Library of Congress
United States of
America
Email: ssti@loc.gov



KARIN BYSTRÖM
Secretary,
Acquisition and Collection
Development Section
Uppsala University Library
Sweden
Email:
karin.bystrom@ub.uu.se



ANN ROLL
Information
coordinator,
Acquisition and
Collection
Development Section
California State
University
United states of
America
Email:





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Remarks: Thank you for the kind support of the IFLA Regional Council Member, Tina Yang to Helen Chan in creating this Newsletter.