IFLA AUGUST 2022 MINUTES

Chair: Stacy Allison-Cassin; Secretary: Collence Chisita and Dr. Raj Kumar; Information Coordinator.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Review and Approval of the Agenda
3. Review and Approval the minutes of the last meeting.
5. IFLA Governance Updates (see attached documents)
6. Action Plan & Updates from Working/Project Groups
   a) Communication and Community i. Newsletter ii. Informal gatherings iii. Website, etc.
   b) Decade of Indigenous Languages
   c) Serials Librarian Special Issue
   d) Guidelines for Services with Indigenous Peoples
   e) Teaching and Education
7. WLIC 2023 early planning
8. Updates around the table
9. Other Business

Present: Stacy Allison-Cassin Chair, Collence, T. Chisita, Dr. Raj Kumar, Stephen Stratton, Melissa VandeBurgt, Leif Martensson, Cellia Joe-Olsen, Jade Alburo, Mark Puente, Feather Maracle, Sandy Littletree, Cindy Hohl, Mohit Garg, Jacinta Beckwith, Analu Kameeiamoku Cruze-Josephide, Tonai, Yuzuru and Rebecca Bateman

Quorum: Quorum was reached.
Secretary: Collence, T. Chisita

Welcome Remarks

The Chair, Stacy, asked participants to share any views on the business meeting in Dublin.

Stacy noted that Celia and Melissa had significantly contributed to the discussion, and their contributions would be incorporated into IFLA-IM's activities in the future.

Updates, Discussion, and Business related to WLIC 2022, Dublin, 26-29 July 2022.

- Stacy stated that we should move to item number 4 on the session in Dublin, 2022.
- Celia Joe-Olsen inquired from the Chair on whether she would thank all those who attended the business meeting in Dublin and inform them that they were welcome if they intend to continue working with IFLA -IM section.
- The Chair thanked everybody who attended the IFLA -IMs 2022 business meeting in Dublin.
- Celia highlighted that it was essential to encourage those interested in joining and using the IFLA-IMs listserv.
- Stacy concurred with Celia on inviting those who attended the IFLA-IMs business meeting in Dublin in August 2022. She highlighted that it was proper to ask them to join the listserv and the section's social media platforms and utilize them as social capital.
- Stacy asked the participants to share their ideas on how they felt about inviting those who attended the section's business meeting in Dublin.
- Stacy indicated that it was proper to invite those who attended the business meeting in Dublin by enabling them to join Basecamp since it's not compulsory for one to be a member to join the platform.
Stacy hinted that the IFLA -IM section has space for more confidential documents for storage in a different area. She stated that she observed other parts of IFLA Basecamp places that have lots of people on them who can access the platform without restrictions. According to her, those invited to the section can stay updated more easily with meetings and other activities.

Melissa VandeBurgt inquired from the Chair whether someone was responsible for managing the list.

Stacy replied that Dr. Raj, as the Information Coordinator was responsible for managing the IFLA-IMs information resources of our information things.

Stacy stated that on behalf of the IFLA-IMs, she was going to send a thank message to the people who attended our business meeting in Dublin with an invitation to join the section's Basecamp and other social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter.

The meeting resolved that the proposal by Celia to invite those who attended the Dublin IFLA -IMs section would be considered an action item.

As the Information Coordinator, Stacy reiterated that Dr. Raj would manage everything on the IFLA-IMs website.

Stacy highlighted the need to find ways to enhance the use of the IFLA-IMs information pieces. She stated that this was not peculiar to IFLA-IMs but a common phenomenon across the different sections.

Stacy stated that the communication strategy was worth discussing since the section did have that communication strategy as part of its action plan.

Feather suggested correcting her name listed as "Heather Maracle" instead of Feather Maracle on the IFLA Business meeting in the Dublin excel sheet. She hinted that on the minutes for September 22nd, 2021, she had been listed as absent, yet she was present.

Stacy assured participants that the secretary should correct the minutes to reflect that Feather was present.

**Wikipedia projects**

Stacy thanked everyone for stepping in due to the last-minute cancelation of her travel to the WLIC conference in Dublin. She kindly asked Mark Puente to summarize the IFLA-IM session in Dublin.
Update on the IFLA -IM session in Dublin by Mark Puente

Mark A Puente asked the participants if they could hear him clearly since he was experiencing technical hitches.

a) Mark A Puente informed the meeting that the IFLA-IMs session proceeded according to plan. He hinted that the session proceeded extraordinarily soundly. He stated that the session had good attendance.

b) According to Mark, the attendance was relatively high, with over eighty people in the room. The only challenge was that the room got relatively warm because of the many attendees. Mark acknowledged that the content was quite exceptional. Mark thanked Stacy for working with the discussants to frame the overall program and the discussion points.

c) Mark indicated there was a long prelude because the library community and libraries are very sceptical of things Wiki. They made a compelling case for why Wiki should be considered a legitimate platform. Mark emphasized the scepticism surrounding the idea that Wiki should be regarded as a fair information source. He further stressed that it was up to us to invest in the time and the duration of the Wiki content. Discussions also focussed on the representation of foreign languages and indigenous languages in the various Wiki platforms and the lacunae around indigenizing or indigenous languages. Other discussions concentrated on how they engaged the multiple platforms, for example, Wikidata, Wikisource, and Wikipedia.

d) Mark informed the participants that the discussions were great and extolled the robust Question and answer session. The debate centred on the Celtic conference and the need to educate people about how it is being organized and how it will cater to the needs of people from various regions and languages.

e) Mark indicated that the session discussants acknowledged the UNESCO celebration of the Decade of Indigenous languages. He reiterated that it was indeed super informative and characterized by excellent attendance.

f) According to Mark, the session and the presenters were dynamic and engaging.

g) Mark finally concluded that there were no accurate follow-ups from the session, with the exception that there's a lot of interest in building out additional learning opportunities in this space, or whether we take it to other areas of our work plan that there is the opportunity, and we will continue to build opportunities to highlight indigenous languages.
and the work that libraries are doing to support not only the preservation of indigenous languages but also they emphasized and re-emphasized the that the scope of IFLA-IMs was not necessarily just on the preservation of indigenous languages, but on encouraging its use, cultivation, and proliferation.

h) Mark indicated it was a terrific program, and even Celia concurred that it was one of the best-attended sessions.

i) Mark thanked the Chair for carefully cultivating and curating the content and highlighted that this made the moderator's job super easy.

**Responses to the Update from Mark Puente's experiences at the Dublin session**

a) Stacy thanked Mark for the Dublin 2022 update and highlighted that she was in her basement and was wondering how everything was unfolding in Dublin.

b) Stacy stated that she was confident that everything was proceeding according to plan. Stacy thanked Mark and everyone who attended the Dublin session.

c) Stacy informed the meeting attendees that before the Dublin session, several meetings with the panel participants were held on June 7th and July 20th, 2022, and thanked those who participated in those meetings.

d) Stacy hoped all the contributions helped shape the IFLA-IMs Dublin session 2022. The discussions before the Dublin 2022 session set the groundwork for the session.

e) Stacy thanked Celia for the photos that captured the vivid memory of the IFLA-IMs session in Dublin.

Stacy offered Dr. Raj the opportunity to contribute

1) Dr. Raj thanked everyone for participating in the Dublin 2022 IFLA-IMs session.

2) Dr. Raj suggested a website update whereby the IFLA-IMs would upload the IFLA-IMs session coverage. He appealed to anyone at the IFLA-IMs session in Dublin to compile a brief report including copyright-free photographs capturing the event.

3) Stacy thanked Dr. Raj for the beautiful idea and indicated that the IFLA-IMs has a section on its website for news.
4) Stacy indicated that it would be a good idea to capture the event in the IFLA -IMs news and urged those who attended the IFLA -IMs session in Dublin to volunteer to take the initiative by compiling a brief paragraph.

5) Stacy asked if there were still any contributions or updates from those who attended the Dublin session to come forward and contribute to the discussion.

6) Stacy stated that after this session, she met with Darya, who works for Wikimedia UK and has been instrumental in the Celtic knot conferences, particularly this year. She indicated they discussed future collaborations regarding the UNESCO Decade on Indigenous languages and how to work with the Wikimedia foundation.

7) Stacy highlighted the linkage with Wikimedia provided opportunities to move the IFLA -IMs section forward. She indicated that IFLA has a long-standing relationship with Wikipedia as well.

8) Stacy highlighted that areas of collaboration would focus on creating resources or opening sessions.

9) Stacy told the attendees that she was chairing the IFLA Wikidata working group and that they had open sessions for people to participate, which went well. She indicated that if there was interest and the IFLA -IMs, we could set the proposal into motion.

10) Stacy highlighted that the proposal to work with Wikimedia would require the section to have meetings and effort and was curious to know from those who attended the Dublin session the feasibility of the proposal to work together with Wikimedia.

**Update from Feather Maracle**

a) Feather informed the meeting that she attended the Wiki session and found it highly informative, at the risk of sounding ignorant.

b) She indicated that she read the introductions despite not being 100% sure and found the session very inspiring.

c) Feather indicated that due to attending the Dublin session, she advised all of her staff in her absence to start transferring our 6 languages stories by typing the content in preparation for Wiki presence.

d) She further hinted that as an early start, she still has to discuss with all of the other speakers, organizations, associations, and things that are useful in preserving our indigenous languages.
e) She indicated that it would be an exciting movement for our indigenous languages to have a Wiki presence. Furthermore, Feather highlighted that the Tuscarora, as one of the indigenous languages, was at risk of becoming extinct since it has few speakers.

f) She stated that as a way of preserving indigenous languages, it would be amazing to have those Wiki pages. She also highlighted attending the Wiki session and getting an opportunity to learn. She extolled the wiki session as a perfect learning curve regarding the attendees. Feather stated that Mark did a fantastic job as a moderator of the Wiki session.

g) Feather praised Mark for his moderation and questions that kept the conversation in motion and inspired the speakers and the audience to think and interact fruitfully.

**Responses and reflections on the Dublin Feedback**

- Stacy thanked Feather for her update on the Dublin Wiki session.
- Stacy stated that Mark had been involved in the Wikimedia movement, particularly for a few years.
- Stacy stated that she found the Dublin Wiki session speakers inspiring and expressed her appreciation that they proved their worthiness as panelists of note.
- Stacy highlighted that Feather referred to Wiki's source regarding transcription, transcriptions, or text-based platforms.
- Cindy expressed interest in the proposed Wiki project.
- Stacy expressed optimism that it was possible to secure collaborators from within the Wikipedia community, including people who are also potentially active in IFLA.
- Stacy told the participants that Collence had also done some work with Wikimedia, which will make the IFLA-IMs initiative relatively easier to move our projects forward.
- Melissa VandeBurgt inquired about the types of social media platforms that the IFLA-IMs have been posting resources about the session, resources, or references that members can access.
- Stacy highlighted that she didn't post anything after, but I was trying to tweet during and harass Celia. She welcomed the idea as a positive contribution from Melisa.
- Stacy indicated that on the IFLA-IMs website, we could get our newsletter together for the fall.
- Stacy informed the participants that she had conversations with a Wikimedia Foundation staff member who handles aspects of movement strategies, libraries, and cultural
activities. She promised to convene a meeting to discuss collaboration since they also have a relationship with UNESCO and the United Nations.

- Stacy stated that the United Nations and other international organizations had used Wikimedia to transmit necessary information on critical issues, including the COVID-19 pandemic. It is possible to upload documents via Wikimedia Commons, which has become an excellent way to communicate efficiently because of the support of mobile technologies.

- The meeting resolved to follow up and convene meetings with the Wikimedia members Foundation later in September 2022 because IFLA-IMs action plan is due by October 1st

- Stacy indicated the IFLA-IM will focus on our activities in the September meeting, which will discuss critical issues in depth.

- The meeting resolved to follow up on meetings with Wikimedia this, maybe to frame out some possible plans and perhaps convene

- Cellia Joe-Olsen supported the motion to convene discussions with Wikimedia members as long as it aligns with what we're planning on doing for the year 2022

- Stacy highlighted the need to conclude IFLA-IM section guidelines and action plan but emphasized the folly of over-committing.

- Sandy stated that the IFLA-IM section should consider killing two birds with one stone because our program was successful. People have shown great interest, providing an opportunity to build on the momentum. She highlighted the possibility of hosting informal gatherings covering issues relating to libraries and languages and the need to converge IFLA-IMs’ big goals into something already successful instead of starting from scratch.

- Stacy hinted that the IFLA-IM plan was a bit overloaded for the year. She indicated that we must complete the IFLA-IM guidelines for services and indigenous communities.

- Stacy highlighted that respecting what we already have in our action plan was necessary.

- Stacy stated that 2022 marked the beginning of the UNESCO Decade of Indigenous languages, which tallied well with the IFLA-IM thrust for the year. She noted that it was possible to weave proposed ideas as suggested by Celia regarding avoiding being overwhelmed.

- Dr. Raj inquired about the possibility of clubbing IFLA-IM outreach activities with an informal gathering and inviting people to the sections by disseminating the information about our section since our agenda in the action plan focuses on increasing our section membership.
• Dr. Raj further noted that it was essential to have a specific or different strategy for our outreach activities, where we can target all these points, which we also suggested in the chat. He stated that we discussed the possibility of holding some seminar activities or Webinars in our meetings.

• Dr. Raj stated that we need to work on our outreach plans and strategies targeting all the points mentioned above and suggested by the members.

• Stacy thanked Dr. Raj and highlighted that when we look at our action plan, we could tie together indigenous as a subject, outreach programs, wiki community building, informal gathering, and languages among other key initiatives, to meet our plans. The Chair stated that we should avoid the syndrome of trying to do five or six different things to avoid complications.

• Stacy stated that Division E emphasized the need to contact different communities and indigenous languages, including library services for children. Such an initiative would focus on indigenous children's authors and help people learn about particular indigenous literature areas.

• Stacy informed the attendees that she would set up the section's business meetings well beforehand. She urged the members to expect another poll in September 2022 to finalize the action.

• The Chair enquired from the members in attendance whether there was anything relating to WLIC Dublin, and Feather volunteered to give the attendees an update.

• In her update on the Dublin conference, Feather Maracle stated that regardless of size, the IFLA officers' briefing took place as highlighted below:
  a) The Dublin session occurred on July 25th, 2022, from 8.30 am to 10.30 am.
  b) There are welcoming introductions.
  c) It included the Professional Council Deputy Chair, words from the Professional Council members, the Regional Division Chair, and then all of the Divisions A to H.
  d) The President of IFLA delivered a few words as well.
  e) There was information on joint working groups for the IFLA networks, working groups, and special interest groups.
  f) There were many acronyms (Sigs), and she threw in some humor on the pun between SIG and cigar.
  g) There was also action planning.
  h) Professional support officer,
i) Small group discussion
j) Photographs (she indicated that she had her mask on for the photo)
k) Discussions on best practices for communication, member engagement, project planning, successes, and identifying how Division Committee Chairs can support initiatives and how IFLA- HQ teams and leadership can support through action and policy.
l) She stated she had no suggestions because the questions sounded heavy, considering her observer status.
m) The discussants preferred suggestions
n) She identified one woman from the University of Buffalo and one from the Library of Congress.
o) Group presentations;
p) The discussions also focussed on library history, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Oral History Projects, the library services for multicultural populations, inclusive meeting guidelines, the timeline for upcoming 2023 elections, and the next WLIC- IFLA Congress scheduled for August 21st to 25th in Rotterdam in the Netherlands;
q) Attendees converged for the IFLA officers' reception at Trinity College; and
r) All attendees could view the book of Kells, visit the old library, and partake in IFLA Officers' reception dinner in the dining hall.

Responses to Feathers update on the IFLA officer's reception in Dublin, 2023

- Stacy thanked Feather for standing up for her during her absence
- Stacy expressed surprise that the IFLA officers meeting in Dublin had a reception in the library
- Feather highlighted that the attendees chose from various drinks, including red and white wine, orange juice, or sparkling water.
- Stacy thanked Feather for the update about the IFLA officers' reception in Dublin. She expressed satisfaction that Feather represented the section professionally.
- Feather informed the meeting that she also took some photographs, and she suggested that she would avail them for uploading on Basecamp.
- Stacy was thankful to Feather and everyone who stood for her in her absence. She also expressed gratitude to Celia for stepping in and being part of the IFLA strategic session
- **Update from Cellia Joe-Olsen on the IFLA Strategy session**
• Celia informed the meeting that her participation and contributions were guided by what was expected by the hosts though she didn't need anyone's guidance. She stated that she danced to her sound.

• Celia's contributions centred on what we do and what we've done individually and as IFLA -IM section.

**Cellia Joe-Olsen's highlights were as follows:**

She talked about the following strategies 1. 4; 2.1; 2.3; 2.4; 3, and 4.3 initiatives.

Her contributions focused on the following:

1) The current IFLA -IM activities and plans, what the section has already started planning regarding the strengthening the global voice of libraries in sync with strategy 1.4 even though it is more than that, and that's about the public opinion, open access (OA) and freedom and human rights.

2) Communication and distributing essential resources because when the section gets its standards and manifesto, such documents will guide the IFLA -IM section's work.

3) She stated that she applied indigenous standards regarding strategy 2 and that as an indigenous person, she is guided by the Maori people's standards because if it's good enough, it's good enough for at a bare minimum for other indigenous communities.

4) Developing standards and guidelines, providing tools that support the work of libraries, producing communication, and distributing essential resources (Strategy, 2).

5) Strategy 3 centres on connecting and empowering the power of the field through broadening access to information and highlighting the Maori subject headings in the Library of Congress by association.

6) Strategy 4 focussed on the organization regarding developing and sustaining networks, linkages, increasing diversity, and engaging membership.

7) Culture and language and how it's on links about the UNESCO Decade for Indigenous Languages.

8) She understands culture through language.

**Responses to Celia's Update on the IFLA officers briefing held in Dublin**
1) Stacy thanked Cellia Joe-Olsen for her update. She stated that she wished she was also present for the session. She thanked her for her impressive contributions and feedback, considering the quick timeline for the session.

2) Stacy asked the members in attendance if they had any thoughts or questions for Celia.

3) Stacy enquired about thoughts from attendees regarding the Dublin session concerning its purpose, effectiveness, and feelings.

4) Stacy sought thoughts on the effectiveness of the IFLA-sponsored Dublin session compared to sessions put together by the standing committees, which tend to focus more on different strategies.

5) Melissa stated it felt like a handful of people were confused about what they were there to do. She thought that it was not necessarily informative across the board. She also stated that it always feels uncomfortable when timers go off and there is a reshuffle.

6) Melissa referenced Mark, who was also in attendance, and suggested that in the future, IFLA needs to communicate more effectively about what their expectations are.

Celia made the following observations from the Dublin session:

- One cannot say much in 4 minutes regarding what one has been doing for a year.
  - a) The organizers underestimated the time allocation for contributors.
  - b) It was better if IFLA HQ wanted to find out what we were doing; they could have sent us a note, and we could have figured it out and responded accordingly.
  - c) When forming a relationship IFLA -IM consideration should be given to the blood, sweat, and tears that go into the work.
  - d) Celia felt the session was rushed, although it could have been more efficient.
  - e) The felt the session was interesting, even though too short.

Stacy highlighted that she was just curious when she received the invitation, which seemed very restrictive.

Stacy thanked everyone and said she trusted those who stood for her in her absence for taking up the things she could not do.

**IFLA governance Updates**
• Stacy invited the meeting attendees to express their perspectives on the IFLA governance
• The Chair stated she communicated the letter that the section, Division-E, and other IFLA-IM members in attendance, including Celia, Collence, and Dr. Raj, among others, signed.
• Stacy stated that the section was in support of the contents of the letter. She added that the IFLA-IM section was entirely behind the contents regarding more transparency from the IFLA Governing body and that the communication deserved the section support as we advance.
• Stacy stated that she hoped there would be more pressure to ensure a pathway forward and resolution to what has been happening with Governance.

Observations from Celia on the IFLA Governance:

a) Session 1.4.1 was out in the open and meant to address our issues. This session took place directly after the IFLA-IM session.
b) The Chair of the Governance Board denied that there was no governance crisis.
c) The governance group team was giving long answers to use up the time.
d) Some so many people had queries and concerns

e) There was confusion over appointing someone on the governance board as in charge of the management.
f) The appointment of an Acting Secretary General who also served as the Chair of the Professional section and was appointed to the Governance Board, and yet he was appointed Acting Secretary General.
g) There were anomalies in the appointments of the financial person, the treasurer, who was part of the financial arm and is now treasurer. It was unclear whether any declarations of interest clarified before the appointment.
h) The appointment of a governance person to the IFLA management was also unclear.

Celia concluded that she looked forward to resolving the IFLA governance issue at the forthcoming IFLA-AGM.

Stacy thanked Celia. She was curious about how the General Assembly would deal with the issue.
Stacy informed the attendees that it was good that the IFLA-IMs accessed the sensitive letter and that, hopefully, contentious issues would be resolved professionally.

Stacy stated there were questions concerning convening the General Assembly after the Dublin meeting and far away from the people who were supposed to attend in Dublin.

Melissa requested the link to the forthcoming General Assembly.

Stacy directed Melissa to Basecamp for the link to the General Assembly. She posted the link on the Zoom chat.

Cellia enquired whether the IFLA-AGM would be broadcasted on YouTube to benefit the wider membership.

Stacy gave an affirmative response to Celia.

Cellia sought clarity on whether anyone attended the AGM and had the right to vote as an official or part of the association.

Cellia stated that the section proxied its vote to go someone who cannot speak or interrupt.

Stacy and Celia concurred that we would all be able to observe only, even though anyone could attend.

Cellia stated that the voting right was for only those with authority or proxy power.

Stacy states that the IFLA-IM section would reconvene and discuss the General Assembly and the other pending Question.

The Chair informed the attendees that if the IFLA-IM section felt that there was the need to have a session focused on Governance, it would be possible, and an invite could be communicated to an expert to come to the section and speak on the issue.

Stacy informed the meeting attendees that everyone was welcome to join the General Assembly.

Other issues related to Governance
Stacy informed the meeting attendees that there was a resignation from Analu, citing personal reasons, creating an opportunity for a casual vacancy until the next election.

1) The Chair said she would speak to the casual vacancy situation of the Division-E, Chair, Jan.
2) The Chair highlighted the issue of having a co-opted member who will be part of the IFLA-IM section but not an elected standing committee member. These members can be helpful.
3) Stacy stated that she would structure the call or proposal for co-opted members cognisant of regional representation.
4) Melissa stated that she served as the co-opted member for two years, then had to go for elections, and she wanted to know if this related to what Stacy highlighted.
5) Mark informed the meeting attendees that they were called corresponding members.
6) Stacy hinted that it was part of IFLA’s restructuring process.
7) Stacy promised to share documents guiding the co-opting members into various sections.

Action Plan & Updates from Working/Project Groups

The Action plans

a) The IFLA-WLIC 2022 Dublin session (indigenous languages work).
b) Stacy kindly requested an update on communication and Community, namely, the newsletter and Informal gatherings website.

Communication and Community

a) Melissa told the participants she concurred with Dr. Raj regarding updating the online content.

Decade of Indigenous Languages.

a) Stacy stated that the UNESCO Decade of Indigenous Languages would be part of the IFLA-IM section at the WLIC-IFLA, 2022 Dublin session.
b) Steve was excused from the meeting by the Chair at 01:10 am

Serials librarian special issue
Stacy informed the meeting attendees that Dr. Raj, Collence, and Rebecca have been working on the Serial Librarian issue, and many wonderful submissions have received.

a) Stacy informed the meeting it was pertinent to revive guidelines for library services for indigenous people.

b) Cellia stated that she would do a write-up that would be tweaked and made available as soon as possible.

Dr. Raj updated members on the Information Coordinators meeting whereby it was agreed that:

1) They encourage members to share their personal stories of indigenous matters or practices.
2) Anyone intending to interview someone who is an expert in the domain is encouraged to do so, and the content would be posted on the website

Stacy informed the meeting attendees that the IFLA -IM section would arrange another meeting in September to work on the action plan.

Dr. Raj highlighted the issue of collaboration with other sections or associations.

**Website**

Dr. Raj informed the meeting that if any member of the committee was organizing any event at his/her institution and would like to collaborate with the sections, they were free to approach the IFLA-IM section Chair, Stacy.

**End of meeting**

There being no other issues to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 01:16:03am

Stacy wished meeting attendees a great week and the rest of the week.