

IFLA IT SECTION MIDYEAR MEETING

 The logo for the IFLA Section Information Technology. It features the acronym 'IFLA' in white letters on a black grid background. To the right, the words 'IFLA Section' are in a teal color, and 'Information Technology' is in a darker teal color below it.	Minutes of the IT Section Mid-year meeting Teleconference Zoom Thursday, June 1, 2022 / Friday, June 2, 2023 - 11.30AM PST / 4:30 AEST
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Present:

1. Edmund Balnaves , Chair (Australia)
2. Elena Sánchez Nogales, Coordinator (Spain)
3. Cory Lampert , Secretary (USA)
4. François-Xavier Boffy, Information Coordinator, Chair of Communication Team (France)
5. Patrick Cher (Big Data SIG, Convenor) (Singapore)
6. Andrew Cox (AI SIG, Convenor) (UK)
7. May Chang (Mentor) (USA)
8. Peter Leinen (Germany)
9. Leda Bultrini (Italy)
10. Lynn Kleinveldt (South Africa)
11. Maria Loretto Puga (Chile)
12. Bohyun Kim (USA)
13. Ray Uzwyshyn (USA)
14. Hasna Askhita (Syria)
15. Tiago Braga (Brazil)
16. Wouter Klapwijk (South Africa)
17. Kate Zwaard (USA)

Apologies:

1. Alenka Kavčič Čolić (Slovenia)
2. Souleymane Sogoba (Mali)
3. Yeon-Soo Lee (South Korea)
4. Yi Chin Liau (Singapore)
5. Qiang Xie (China)

Agenda

1. **Welcome / Apologies/ Agenda / Introduction -- Standing Committee / New Members / Guests; 15 minutes)** - Edmund/All
2. **Standing Committee matters**
 - a. Update from the chair - Edmund

- i. Officers elections
<https://3.basecamp.com/3833672/buckets/22064612/uploads/5943450391>

Now that the Standing Committee elections have concluded, the next step is elections for new Officers (Chair, Secretary, Information Coordinator, Convenors). This is a self-nomination process, so please encourage your colleagues if they would be eligible. The nomination process opens **1 June - 19 June. Elections take place: 26 June -10 July with announcement of result on 13 July.** New Officers will commence their term at the August WLIC 2023 Congress and serve two-year terms.

- ii. Professional council update

In addition to officer elections, we have one opening on the committee, and co-opting this final member will happen in August. IFLA has had a lot of leadership changes in the past two years, more information can be found in this [Letter from the President](#) from Secretary General, Sharon Memis.

IFLA has done an excellent job of creating new documentation for Committees and members to use. Most of this is linked in Basecamp where most communication occurs, but new members (or those who want a refresher) may want to review the newly updated [IFLA Handbook](#) as a reference.

- b. Update from the Secretary - Cory

- i. Welcome new members! In my role as Secretary I will be updating documents and rosters and making sure all meeting minutes from Business Meetings are accessible on our committee's BaseCamp. The roadmap for Committee projects and long-term work is called the Action Plan and we will be brainstorming items for this plan at the WLIC 2023, please bring your ideas and expertise. All project ideas are welcome as long as we can identify a lead and small team to work on the project. We report on our activities annually and I work with the Chair on the Annual Reports, with the next due 1 August.

- c. Update from the comms team - Francois-Xavier

- i. Communications Team

This is a small group that conducts short meetings to focus on sharing news about the Section via social media, the newsletter, and the IFLA communication channels (our website/listservs. etc.) It is a great team that is extremely productive and engaged and joining is an excellent way to get up to speed on what is happening in the Section and across IFLA. Volunteers welcome to contact Francois-Xavier.

There is an active [Facebook](#) presence as well as a [Twitter account](#): and all are welcome to participate. During conferences we welcome live tweeting and you are welcome to share news and information, such as conferences or publications over these channels.

- ii. The Communication team publishes 2 issues of the [TILT](#) (Trends and Issues in Library Technology) per year. The last two years they have produced thematic

issues related to topics such as Big Data or AI. Submissions are welcome and these can be full papers or news items or opinion columns about issues in library technology.

- iii. Volunteers are needed to help with summarizing the sessions at the WLIC conference on Facebook or participate in live tweeting.

3. **Planning for WLIC 2023 – 18th Aug Satellite 21st -25th Aug Main conference; Programme:**
<https://2023.ifla.org/conference-programme/>

a. **Satellite session: Agile (Elena)**

Please keep our satellite meeting in mind for travel planning as it happens the Friday before the conference. You can register for the satellite on the [website](#). This satellite builds on a main session we led in Dublin and it should be an excellent meeting.

- i. The team helping to organize includes: Elena leading with Wouter, Edmund, FX, Cory helping with review of papers. This is a joint satellite with Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning ([CPDWL](#)) Section and Subject Analysis and Access ([SAA](#)). It will take place at the host institution, Erasmus Library.
- ii. The satellite will be a half day with a Plenary speaker, 7 sessions, and hopefully a workshop. We still need a volunteer to lead a workshop providing an overview of Agile principles and tools.

b. **[Business session - Sunday, 20 August, 11:15 am – 01:15 pm](#)** (Edmund)

c. Officer's Reception, Monday 21 August, outgoing officers only

d. **Main Session - Digital Technologies and Sustainability: Say Your Piece in 7+3** (May)
The presenters will all attend on-site and the session has good geographic coverage

e. Joint session with Audiovisual and Multimedia Section – Artificial Reality/Virtual Reality, metaverse, immersive technologies – New methods for Sustainable Communities in Libraries (Edmund)

This session topics focus more on VR than metaverse, but they have a good slate of presenters

f. Joint session with Buildings - Technology Enhanced Library Learning Environments, Architectural Spatial Design and New Information Technology Possibilities (Ray)

Great session planned with an excellent mix of architecture / buildings topics and IT topics. There will be 3 panelists representing academic, public, and national libraries.

g. Joint Session: Library data in the world of machine learning: ethics, bias and algorithms (Cory)

h. Joint session: Utopia, threat or opportunity first? Artificial Intelligence and machine learning for cataloguing (Cory)

Joint with SAA and [Cataloguing](#) Sections. We received a large amount of submissions and reviewed all as a group for both sessions. Library Data presenters have all been notified and have confirmed participation. Cory has submitted session information to the program . Cataloguing and SAA are still

finalizing one speaker for the other session.

- i. Joint session: National Libraries + AI : Opportunities, Challenges and Risks - Panel (Andrew)
Some confusion over our listing as sponsor of this session, Edmund and Andrew will follow up
- j. [AI SIG](#) sessions and Business Meeting (Andrew)
 - i. *Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression Open Session: Let's library for responsible*; AI SIG is leading with IFLA Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section ([IFLAPARL](#)) and Advisory Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression ([FAIFE](#))
 - ii. *Will Generative AI be a friend or foe in the future of librarianship?* - working with the [Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship SIG](#); this is a Provocations session about generative AI
 - iii. *National Libraries + AI : Opportunities, Challenges and Risks*
- k. [Big Data SIG](#) Business Meeting (Patrick)
 - i. The Business meeting session will be two parts: “How to build and train AI chatbot (using Python and ChatGPT API)” workshop session, followed by the business meeting
- l. Other meetings and sessions of interest
 - i. Lots of AI sessions: <https://iflawlic2023.abstractserver.com/program/#/results>

4. **AI Symposium, South Africa –NWU – Potchefstroom, 5-7 September 2023**

- a. This symposium follows up on the AI Satellite meeting from 2022 in Galway. That satellite inspired an “AI World Tour” with the first stop in Singapore led by Patrick, Edmund, and May and hosted by the National Library Board. Currently this is a second symposium in Africa, May is working with NW University. The local organizers are doing the bulk of the work with the IT Section helping to review papers and add our name to the event as a sponsor. There is a small registration fee to attend. More information at <https://library.nwu.ac.za/artificial-intelligence-symposium-2023>.

5. **AI Symposium, Chile - April 9, 10 and 11 2024 – AI symposium and IT mid-term meeting** (Maria Loretto)

- a. This is a proposal for an AI Symposium to be held in South America. The tentative date is the 2nd week in April to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Special and University Libraries Conference. The tentative program would be 3 days with the AI symposium on Day 1 and a Mid-term Meeting on Day 3. The University of Chile could be a host and partner in symposium and mid-term meeting. There is no website yet, and more information is to come. Maria Loretto was suggested to talk to the Regional Council.
- b. In addition to the mentioned symposiums, there is interest and a point person for another symposium in Qatar to bring the tour to the Middle East and North Africa, next.

6. **Badge program**

- a. Francois-Xavier Boffy reported on the Badge Program project which was recently kicked off with a webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cUL_cAtY6U. The Badge Program seeks to recognize specific technology skills of IFLA participants via a visual

badge that could showcase skills to others in the organization. The prototype is planned to be tested in the IT Section with the BD SIG and AI SIG participants. A survey will be conducted to allow people to review the skills included in the badge program and request a badge. Participants will be asked to provide other feedback to improve the program.

7. Action Plan purpose and update (Edmund/Cory)

- a. Each year the committee works on an Action Plan that reflects timely trends in technology as well as the interests and expertise of the committee members so that our committee fulfills our mission to lead and participate in global IT professional conversations. Our current/past Action Plan items include the following topics:
 - i. WLIC Sessions 2023
 1. AI, Ethics of AI, Metaverse/VR, top technology trends, library space and technology, library data and metadata/machine learning, Big Data, Agile project management, sustainability, and building technology skills capacity.
 - ii. Agile Satellite 2023
 - iii. AI SIG formation and outcomes
 1. AI Publication
 2. AI Symposiums
 - iv. Big Data SIG
 - v. AI Publication - edited book
 - vi. Badge Program
 - vii. IT Webinar Series - to supplement sessions at WLIC
 - viii. Communication Plan and Team
 1. ILT newsletter
 2. Social Media
 3. Sharing News and Information

8. Other business

- a. n/a
- b.

9. Next meeting of the Standing Committee is SC1: Sunday, 20 August, 11:15 am – 01:15 pm

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm PST