



IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Standing Committee

<http://www.ifla.org/metropolitan-libraries>

Business Meeting
on 22th September 2022

Over Zoom

1. **Welcome, attendance, general introductions, apologies**

Carolyn Anthony, Chair (Public Library Association, USA); Eman Alshamari (Qatar); Brian Bannon (NY; USA); Nick Buron, Information Coordinator (NY, USA); Pablo Bruno D'Amico (Buenos Aires, Argentina); Carme Galve Montore (Barcelona, Spain); John Spears (Buffalo, USA); Mathilde Servet (Paris, France); Katri Vanttinen (Helsinki, Finland); Flippie Van der Walt (Cape Town, South Africa); Lucia Werder, Secretary (Bremen, Germany); Tian Zhan (Guangzhou, China)

Apologies: Ton van Vlimmeren (Utrecht, Netherlands); Suzie Gately (Newcastle, Australia); Moe Hosseini-Ara (Toronto, Canada); Cao Zhong (Shanghai, China); Neeza Singh (Chandigarh, India); Knut Skanson (Oslo, Norway)

The SC meeting was called to order at 15:00 p.m. MEZ.

2. **Adoption of the agenda**

The committee accepted the proposed agenda.

3. **Confirmation of minutes of MetLib meeting from July**

Minutes of the meeting of July, 25 2022 were confirmed.

4. **Proposal for MetLib Conference**

2023: in Buenos Aires in October 2023

Pablo prepared a presentation (also see on Basecamp for everyone who missed the presentation) and presented his proposal for the Conference theme in 2023: "Sustainable Libraries make Sustainable Cities"

The SC members were enthusiastic about the venue and the Conference theme and thanked Pablo for the invitation to Buenos Aires.

The exact date of the conference will be fixed soon.

Pablo added that Argentina has no VISA requirements for most countries.

Planning Committee for the MetLib Conference 2023 regarding the SC: Pablo, Brian, Carme, Carolyn, Katri and Knut.

Knut additionally offered to let his staff connect with the staff of Buenos Aires.

2024: Proposal for MetLib 2024 in Melbourne, Australia (by Felicity Macchion, Manager of Yarra Libraries). More information will follow.

Looking for proposal for MetLib 2025, possibly from US: Carolyn, Brian, John and Nick will talk to colleagues of MetLib cities in the US about hosting the conference.

5. Tommi Laitio's proposal for "Skills for Partnerships," a MetLib Learning Circle

Carolyn presented Tommi's proposal that she send out before the meeting. The learning circle is a program to support the mid-level management, to expand membership engagement and to bring the global community together.

Participants: 15-20 participants (professionals who are not leading the entire organization but might be running a department, a development unit, a big branch library or a major project); 5 slots are reserved for Tommi's research partners included Amsterdam, Charlotte, NC, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Fortaleza, Brazil.

Tommi prepared the Call for Applications that was send out by Nick to the Standing Committee and to MetLib membership.

Deadline for nominations: 21 October 2022

6. Survey re Outcomes winter 2022-2023 with Statistics and Evaluation Section;

Bella Gerlich from Statistics and Evaluation Section will coordinate the survey with support from Daphne, one of Moe's team members and Carme. The survey will be connected to the preliminary survey regarding impact in spring 2022.

The survey will focus on public libraries in metropolitan areas and will go out this winter. Carolyn will keep us informed.

Carme offered her help as they have lots of experience in the statistic field.

7. Outcome report for MetLib for IFLA 2021-22 due 9/30 Goals re Membership & Participation and Impact Measurement

Outcome regarding goal "Expansion and engagement of members":

- More engagement e.g. by the co-opting process to get 3 active members instead of 3 inactive members
- Establishment of working groups for key goals and the Oslo Conference. Greater number of SC members assigned to a working group or other activity such as PLOTY selection.
- Leadership program with Tommi Latio (starting in 2023)
- MetLib Conference in Oslo
- More notices, information and updates send out to the members of the SC and MetLib mailing lists, e.g. Mathilde responded to notice of a Library Innovation Award by the International Relations Round Table of the ALA and a French library received the award at the ALA Conference June, 2022

Outcome regarding goal "Impact of Libraries"

- Preliminary survey about impact with the Statistics and Evaluation Section
- Two programs on the WLIC regarding the topic of impact. Program on the impact of libraries in a democratic society was a big success with long discussions afterwards and reference to this session in other programs of the conference. Thanks to everyone who was involved!
- Survey in 2023 with focus on public libraries in metropolitan areas.

8. Goals for MetLib for 2022-2023

“Expansion and engagement of members” and “Impact of Libraries” will stay the main goals for 2022-2023. Carme and Tian will also get engaged in the goal “Impact of Libraries” in addition.

The venue for the MetLib Conference is also important to attract new members and increase the engagement of new members.

9. Other items for discussion & Committee member updates

Mathilde reported that criteria for the Public Library of the Year award will be rewritten in November. Maybe two library awards will be announced in 2023: one for a smaller and one for a bigger public library. Mathilde and Flippie will proceed to work on the public library of the year award in 2023.

John is still engaged in the work on the Library Manifesto. Carme added that they are working to translate the manifesto in Catalan.

Short film award: John will reach out to Corrado to get information about the future of the award and maybe transfer away from the Italian Film Festival. At MetLib Conferences shorter presentation would be better (about 5 films).

In any case, more sponsors are needed for a short film award; otherwise, no participation will be possible in the future. Katri suggests to partner up with another section and no longer with the Italian Library Association (maybe public library section).

10. Next Meetings

Next meeting of the MetLib Standing Committee is scheduled November 10, 2022, 8:00 am, CT via Zoom.

Further upcoming SC meetings: 16.2.2023, 13.4.2023, 15.6.2023 and late August at WLIC in Rotterdam

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 16:00 p.m. (MEZ).

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia Werder
Secretary, Metropolitan Libraries Section