



IFLA Section Cataloguing

Minutes of Cataloguing Section
Business Meeting
Teleconference (Zoom),
16 February, 2023 3-4 PM CET

I- Welcome

The chair welcomed the members and thanked them for joining the meeting. In attendance were:

Vincent Boulet (Chair) (BnF - France)
Merideth Fletcher (Secretary) (Library and Archives Canada)
Ricardo Santos (Information Coordinator) (National Library of Spain)
Marja-Liisa Seppälä (Newsletter editor) (National Library of Finland)
Ángela Quiroz (Library of National Congress – Chile)
Trine Adolfsen (National Library of Norway)
Jennifer Wright (BDS – Scotland)
Gordon Dunsire (Independent Consultant - UK)
Miki Yamaguchi (National Diet Library - Japan)
Deanna White (ISSN International Centre - France)
Susan Morris (Library of Congress, Retired - United States)
Karina Esman (National Library of Russia)

II- Adoption of the agenda

The chair proposed the following topics: preparation for the next IFLA Conference; events to be organized by the section during the Conference; an in-depth discussion on the different activities during a mid-term (spring) meeting; and the IFLA election.

The membership adopted the proposed agenda without changes.

III- Mid-Term Meeting

The chair had previously proposed organizing a mid-term meeting in Paris, perhaps in May. He asked the membership if there was agreement that we could organize a one-day meeting, with a Zoom connection if needed. Ricardo Santos agreed, as long as it would be possible to connect virtually. There was agreement from the membership. The Chair will propose (via email) some dates for May.

The Chair proposed the following agenda topics for the mid-term meeting:

- Competencies (Led by Susan)
- International Cataloguing Principles (ICP) ongoing structural review
- Planning for WLIC 2023

IV- Election

The Chair reminded the membership that this is an IFLA election year and said that colleagues who are in their first term in the section and wanted to nominate themselves for a second term needed to do so quickly as the deadline was Friday Feb. 24. Ricardo asked about the nominations that had been submitted so far. The Chair said that IFLA had promised to provide the list of nominations to him.

Deanna asked if there were any rule changes for the selection of liaisons. The Chair said that this is a decision that is taken by the section itself. He said that he could perhaps check this with IFLA Headquarters but that he believed that there were no formal rules about the election of liaisons.

The Chair mentioned that this is also an election year for officers: Secretary, Information Coordinator and Chair. The current chair leaves the section at the end of what will be his second term. This is also the end of Ricardo's second term (Information Coordinator), so this position will be available, and the position of Secretary (currently held by Merideth Fletcher, in her first term) is open. The Chair said that members could consider putting themselves forward for nomination for section officer.

Ricardo asked what procedures were to be followed for members to nominate themselves for officer. Deanna White said that there is a website and guidebook that can be followed. There is also a nomination form for people to sponsor interested candidates. Deanna provided the following links in the meeting chat:

- IFLA Elections Guide: <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/2406>
- Nominee form for standing committee members: <https://www.ifla.org/g/elections/professional-section-committee-member-2023/>

V- WLIC 2023

A) Standing Committee Meetings

A Standing Committee meeting will be held on August 20th at the WLIC conference in Rotterdam to be attended by both incoming and outgoing section members. A second meeting will be held online in August or September only for incoming members. The date of the second meeting will be determined by the next Standing Committee.

B) Satellite Meeting

It was decided last year that the section would hold a joint meeting with the Bibliography and Subject Analysis and Access (SSA) Section.

The satellite meeting will be hosted by the KBR (Royal Library of Belgium) in Brussels. The proposed dates are August 18th and August 19th. (A full day on the 18th and a half-day on the 19th). The cost of the meeting will be covered by KBR, which has kindly offered rooms at no cost. OCLC may also contribute to the budget for this meeting.

This meeting will centre on the concept of Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC). Each of the three terms will be considered: *Bibliographic*, *Universal* and *Control*, to determine their relevance in the new web cataloguing environment. There is also an opportunity at this meeting to speak about cataloguers' roles (a strong link with the Competencies WG), and the need for integration and evolution of IFLA standards. Ricardo asked what the planned structure for this meeting would be. The Chair said that the format isn't yet decided. The idea is to have three round tables but it hasn't been determined if there will be a call for papers or not.

C) Open Session

The committee discussed ideas for the theme of the open session and the best format for the session. A planning group is needed in order to prepare a proposal to be submitted to IFLA by the deadline of March 18, and then to plan the open session itself.

The Chair suggested the topic of artificial intelligence and cataloguing, perhaps with a special focus on AI tools that could be helpful or not to the cataloguing community. What kind of metadata and format types can these tools be used for to help cataloguers' work? He suggested that we could contact the IT Section (they have already begun work on an AI theme) and perhaps work with them on a joint session. The Chair asked the members for comments.

Deanna said that she had had the same idea and that she was aware that the Advisory Committee on Standards had been planning a session on Semantic web and use of name spaces, as well as standards in artificial intelligence.

Gordon asked whether we were discussing ChatGPT and other similar tools. Based what he said was limited exploration, he felt these tools would have a revolution on cataloguing, in particular for structured metadata, and pattern recognition. He said that these tools have the potential to be an enormous helper in the process of cataloguing, and that we need to demonstrate where these tools fail, and what we can do as cataloguers to complement these tools. He agreed that AI and cataloguing would be the best theme, as did Deanna and Ricardo.

The Chair suggested "AI: Threat or Opportunity for Cataloguing and Cataloguers" as the theme. He will get in touch with the IT Section to suggest working together, and then to complete a proposal to IFLA HQ before the deadline. He asked if there were any volunteers to work with him on this. Ángela Quiroz and Ricardo volunteered.

D) Metadata Slot Session

The Chair said that the online sessions organized last year and the year before were great successes, and that many people participated. However, the SSA and the Bibliography sections now wish to go back to a face-to-face session at WLIC this year. The Chair thinks this is not necessarily a good idea. Open virtual sessions are very large, and a useful way for IFLA to engage with the global standards landscape. The recent webinar on ISBD for Manifestation had over 980 registrations, many more than would have been able to join an onsite event.

There was discussion of having the slot session be a hybrid event. However, Deanna said that it can be challenging to truly engage both onsite and remote audiences, and when both options are offered, often organizations will not allow their employees to attend in-person. The membership agreed with the Chair, who will propose to the Bibliography and SSA Sections keeping the session virtual. It may not be possible to organize this event for WLIC, but the open session could be held afterwards. Hopefully the Working Group on IFLA Standards will be finished its work by the end of WLIC, and will have presented their recommendations to the Committee on Standards. The open session would be a perfect place to present this work and recommendations.

VI- Any other issue

The Chair asked if the membership had any other topics for the agenda, but as no one did, he closed the meeting.