



IFLA Social Sciences Libraries Section – Business Meeting - Zoom Meeting Thursday October 12, 2023

<https://www.ifla.org/social-science-libraries>

Attendees:

Abby Moore (Chair)

Ekaterina Shibaeva (Information Coordinator)

Lee LaFleur

Chiku Mnubi Mchombu

Robin Kear (Secretary)

Abby Moore called the meeting to order at 11:13 am EST time.

1. Co-Opting Process for new members to SOCSCL (Ekaterina)
 - a. This year IFLA is providing the opportunity for sections to build their membership to the maximum of 20 members; it is a new process. We are currently at 10 members; three from Asia, one from Europe, one from Latin American Caribbean, no one from Middle East North Africa, four from North America, one from Sub-Saharan Africa. Ekaterina will post this information to basecamp.
 - b. There is agreement that we need more members, especially from underrepresented geographic regions. Even one new member from unrepresented regions would be welcome. Also, strong social science library development groups should be considered.
 - c. The chair should also reach out to current members who are not actively participating.
 - d. Abby will contact the division chair to express our interest in co-opting, receive approval to co-opt, and IFLA sent out its official email to IFLA members on October 16th.
 - i. Social Sciences Libraries Section is listed as committee interested in co-opting new members.
 - ii. We cannot co-opt those who are members of the section but were not elected in previous elections. We could invite those who have been members before to fill in the form. We can use the IFLA members of our section to encourage co-opted members to apply. There is the opportunity to invite new members to the section, especially from geographic areas that are underrepresented with social science interest and to contact those who have expressed interest in our section.
 - e. From an October 16, 2023 email and <https://www.ifla.org/news/call-for-co-opted-members-professional-units/>: The Professional Council of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) invites expressions of interest from those seeking to serve as co-opted members on a [Professional Unit Committee](#) (Section or Special Interest Group) for the term 2023-2027.

- i. The co-opting process provides an avenue for IFLA Committee membership, outside of the elections process, for those individuals who may not have a direct connection to an eligible nominator, such as students, new professionals, or those residing or working in countries where there are no IFLA members. Co-opted members serve on Section or SIG Committees as full members for a term of up to four years. If they wish to be considered for an additional term, they must participate in the IFLA nominations and elections process.
 - ii. Provide a formal expression of interest to serve on a specific committee as a co-opted member on the following link:
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7516767/Expression-of-Interest-Professional-Unit-Co-opted-Member>
 - iii. Co-opted members will be selected based on the needs of the committee. The new term co-opting process will be finalised by 1 December 2023.
- 2. Action Plan Discussion (Abby)
 - a. The action plan for the next two years is due on November 1st.
 - i. There is no WLIC in 2024 and possibly in 2025, depending on host country interest. How does this affect our planning?
 - ii. What are we interested in working on for the next two years?
 - b. Possible actions:
 - i. Co-opting members from underrepresented regions as discussed.
 - ii. Virtual programming or workshops – topics discussed.
 - 1. Best practices in Social Sciences Research
 - iii. Community of Practice for Systematic Reviews
 - 1. this could be an ongoing programming event with webinars, workshops, and as an outcome, a toolkit.
 - 2. ‘Meeting the Needs of Social Science Systematic Reviews’; introductory webinar and then case studies, and then toolkit.
 - 3. What should the timing be? Maybe in early 2024, January, or late spring to keep developing this concept.
 - 4. Abby will post links to related websites and LibGuides in Basecamp. Please respond to these questions: How can we make this type of programming uniquely for IFLA? Is it the international perspective?
 - 5. Ideas for speakers related to systematic reviews are welcome; send to Abby.
 - iv. Possible division meeting in person – who would be able to attend?
 - 1. After WLIC 2024 was cancelled, the division chair was starting to promote the division meeting once in person.
 - c. Abby, Robin, and Ekaterina will meet to finalize the action plan on October 24th for the deadline. We will share with the committee for comment before it is submitted.
 - d. There will be a November meeting to further discuss the systematic review topic.
- 3. Old Business
 - a. Questions for members for blog posts. From September: Abby and Lee will help Ekaterina with drafting the questions. Members can answer the questions when they are finished.

Abby Moore ended the meeting at 12:00 am EST time.