Action plan 2019 – 2020

Name of Professional Unit: Academic & Research Libraries

For some years, the Academic & Research Libraries committee has had a four-point mission:

- Provide a forum for the exchange of information and best practice to strengthen the development, cooperation and good management of academic and research libraries in all countries

- Encourage and foster research, lobbying, and promotion to strengthen the role of the library in the core institutional functions of learning, teaching, research and services

- Facilitate the achievement of IFLA strategic goals and aspirations through an active membership of the Section

- Participate in broader national and international frameworks for developing information policy and services

The committee's activities to advance that mission have been focused in two areas, which we still see as well aligned with IFLA's goals, as described below.

Focus Area 1
Monitor current and emerging issues relevant to academic and research libraries, and disseminate information about those issues, including both results of relevant research and experiences of practitioners.

IFLA Strategic Direction

[Indicate which of IFLA's Core Strategic Directions this Focus Area is aligned with and how]
 	
 This focus area is based in both content and communication, and the committee's activities here advance IFLA Strategic Direction #1.
     1. **STRENGTHEN THE GLOBAL VOICE OF LIBRARIES**
     3. **CONNECT AND EMPOWER THE FIELD**
 These programs, most of which are around WLIC programming, all have at their heart identifying key issues of concern to our membership, and opening them up for discussion and deliberation.

Key Initiatives	
[KI No.]	*[Describe how your planned activities align with this Key Initiative]*
1.2	**Build a strong presence in international organizations and meetings as a valued partner** ARL committee members have historically had strong connections with their own regional and other international library and

	information organizations. Their work with IFLA has direct impact on the work they undertake in those organizations, as well as in their home institutions. Their IFLA engagement impacts their perspective, and their thinking, and those ideas are spread through interconnection.	
1.4	**Shape public opinion and debate around open access and library values, including intellectual freedom and human rights** ARL committee members value their roles as champions of intellectual freedom and open access and regularly advocate for what they see as 'library values' in the public presentations that they give, and the programs they coordinate. That focus, and that role of champion, is reflected in the nature of the programs that ARL puts together.	
3.1	**Provide excellent opportunities for face-to-face networking and learning** Face-to-face learning frequently happens at the conference, and we want to leverage the opportunity of what the conference offers.	
3.4	**Provide targeted learning and professional development** We provide a variety of learning opportunities at the conference.	

Funding Needed	Projects/Activities	Tasks & Responsibility	Timeframe

☐	*Determine whether to host a satellite program for 2020* – With the announcement of the location of the 2020 conference, the committee is considering the possibility of hosting a satellite program that will address issues of concern to the community	• Committee to discuss the options for a satellite meeting at WLIC
		   o It was decided not to hold an offsite in 2020, as we do not have a committee member local to Dublin
		 • The committee anticipates hosting a session in 2021 in Rotterdam, as we do have a local committee member there.
		   o Initiate discussions of themes and potential partners
			• By end of WLIC 2019
			   o Decision complete

☐	*Joint Session* – The committee typically joins with another committee to host a joint session at the WLIC. Anticipate doing this again for 2020.	• Identify potential partners (all)
		   o Statistics & Evaluation have agreed. Needs approval of the full commitee
		 • Identify a theme
		   o Based on discussion at our meeting, assessment and measurement and data resources are core topics
		   o Once committee has approved the partnership, a formal theme will be developed and approved
			At WLIC 2019

		• Pull together committee members to work on the program • Coordinate speakers o Need to decide in coordination with partners whether we invite speakers or issue a call for papers'	
☐	*Hot Topics* – The committee anticipates once again hosting its Hot Topics program at WLIC 2020	• Identify a program coordinator and project team o Lorraine Haricombe – coordinator • Identify speakers and topics • Review posted procedures and update as necessary	At WLIC 2019 Early 2020 During the course of the year
☐	*Open Access White Paper Participation* – Two committee members have volunteered to participate in this FAIFE-sponsored effort.	• The committee volunteers are already at work. The program is being set by FAIFE.	As determined by FAIFE
☐		•	

How will you communicate your activities and results?

We will use our blog and social media outlets to communicate about our activities, and will ask our membership to share that information with their local organizations. We will also leverage IFLA-provided tools like Basecamp to ensure that our programs are known to our IFLA colleagues, and we will also include information on our IFLA website where appropriate.

How will you measure the impact of your activities?

For instructional sessions, we will measure impact first by attendance. We will also measure response to associated social media discussion, and will seek input from participants and audiences on their level of satisfaction with programs.

Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.

We will look at units to collaborate with based on our primary topics of interest at the WLIC 2019. Units for potential partnership based on those discussions include: Statistics and Evaluation, IT, Library Publishing SIG andCollections Development

Focus Area 2			
Facilitate the involvement of library professionals from all regions in committee activities and programs.			

IFLA Strategic Direction			
[Indicate which of IFLA's Core Strategic Directions this Focus Area is aligned with and how] This focus is all about building connections between libraries. Thus it aligns with 3. **CONNECT AND EMPOWER THE FIELD** 4. **OPTIMISE OUR ORGANIZATION** These programs connect people across the globe, and provide them with tools and professional development. They also leverage technology to optimize our efficiency			

Key Initiatives			
[KI No.]	*[Describe how your planned activities align with this Key Initiative]*		
3.2	**Support virtual networking and connections** [In each of these projects, the committee is working to bring people together, and build connections across the globe. Most leverage technology to facilitate that communication and collections]		
3.4	**Provide targeted learning and professional development** [Each of these projects is focused on professional development.]		
4.4	**Increase our visibility through excellent and innovative communications** These programs leverage technology to bring our far-flung membership closer together, and leverage all of our skills.		

Funding Needed	Projects/Activities	Tasks & Responsibility	Timeframe

☐	*Deliver a Webinar Series addressing issues in Academic & Research Libraries ......* The committee will continue its successful webinar series through at least 2020-2021. If successful, it will extend to future years.	• Coordinate new presenters and programs
		   o Set timing
		   o Set topics
		 • Manage Zoom
		 • Manage post-meeting write-ups and posting of video
			Sessions to be held roughly every two months List of possible webinars available for the next 6 months

		• Manage post-meeting editing of video • Develop guidelines for managing the process to be posted to Basecamp	
☐	*Attendance Grant* – Pending confirmation of continued vendor sponsorship, the committee will once again run its attendance grant program, sponsoring three individuals to attend the IFLA conference.	• Reach out to vendors to determine if they will be renewing • Develop submission form • Draft announcement • Revise and update guidelines for managing the process to be posted to Basecamp	Completed at WLIC Sept-Oct Nov Through the course of the year
☐	*Blog posts and discussions* – The committee will continue to post blogs that incite discussion, and leverage social media to continue those conversations.	• Identify blog post coordinator • Develop guidelines for managing the process to be posted to Basecamp	List of possible blogs available for thre next 4-5 months
☐			

How will you communicate your activities and results?

We will leverage our blog and other social media to talk about these activities, as well as our section web page. We will also use our webinars to engage the larger community.

How will you measure the impact of your activities?

We will assess participation, and seek feedback on the impact the programs have had on participants, e.g. use of our social media platforms, access/usage of our blogposts, number of applications for our attendance grants from different regions of the world.

Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.

We will use the WLIC to assess partnership opportunities.