

## Action plan 2017 – 2018

**Name of Professional Unit: Social Science Libraries Section**

**Objectives of Professional Unit 2017-18:** *(We recommend a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 5. Please state how each contributes to the IFLA Strategic Plan)*

- 1. SSLS consistently attempts to increase the understanding of the interdisciplinary and problem-solving aspects of the disciplines under the rubric of social sciences contributing to the Key Initiatives 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 3.2 and 4.5*
- 2. SSLS has the specific objective this year to enhance the understanding of the utility of text mining within the social sciences by implementing the tools available to explore the IFLA Library thus contributing to Key Initiatives 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 3.2,4.5*
- 3. Wider dissemination of the work of the social sciences and IFLA through publication of a special issue in the IFLA Journal is another of the objectives of SSLS and contributes to Key Initiatives 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 3.2 and 4.5.*
- 4. A final objective of SSLS for this year is the coordination of our activities around a theme – data mining in the social sciences – to raise our profile in the organization and to provide a welcoming space for others doing text mining including the new Digital Humanities SIG by organizing a workshop and satellite on the topic. This is very closely tied to the support of KI 1.3 Building on the IFLA Trend Report and, in addition, generally supports the Strategic Direction of Capacity Building by providing accessible training for individuals attending WLIC.*

<b>Objectives</b> <i>What do you want to achieve?</i> <i>Use your list above</i>	<b>Project or activity</b> <i>What project or activity are you going to do?</i>	<b>Main tasks</b> <i>What are the specific things you need to do?</i>	<b>Responsibilities and timeline</b> <i>Who will do them and by when?</i>	<b>Resources</b> <i>Do you need specific skills, money or technology?</i>	<b>Communications</b> <i>How will you communicate your achievements?</i> <i>To whom? By when?</i>	<b>Measures of success</b> <i>How will you show the impact of your work?</i>	<b>Progress</b> <i>Report here briefly the progress of your work, at least every month</i>
1. Offer learning opportunities to a broad audience related to the use of text/data mining to support development of the social sciences in solving global problems.	1.1 Provide a satellite meeting in partnership with PIs from an IMLS grant related to data mining in the Hathi Trust Digital Library with the cooperation of the DH/S SIG.	1.2.1. Find venue and vendor support for satellite. 1.2.2 Create call for papers. (In addition to the one day workshop on the Hathi Trust, we will solicit presenters who can speak to the implementation of text mining for the social sciences for a second day of learning and discussion. 1.2.3 Capture as much of the workshop and presentations as	1.3.1 Lynne R. by the end of November finalize venue with University in Kuala Lumpur. (Normally we would also look for accommodations, but we are assuming anyone coming to the satellite is also coming to WLIC.) 1.3.2 Members of the SSLS reach out to various vendors to obtain support for refreshments and honoraria for speakers. 1.3.3 Subcommittee of SSLS convenes to both solicit and review papers for presentations. We	1.4.1 We need good tech in the venue which we are working on currently 1.4.2. We need the usual support from IFLA for advertising the event 1.4.3 If funding could be provided, we would like to send one member of our committee for a personal visit to the site in	1.5.1 Report on success, deposit and any resulting articles to SSLS and Division 1.5.2 If possible compile and edit a special issue of the IFLA journal 1.5.3 Chair reports and highlights the success of the satellite as broadly as possible	1.6.1 Evaluations from the event 1.6.2 Follow-up with attendees to see if anyone has been able to apply skills learned.	1.7.1 We have finally received a reply from an August request for contact with the national committee for help identifying a site. 1.7.2 Lynne spoke with Xuemao Wang, convenor of the new DH/DS SIG and he has indicated a desire to work with us.

possible for upload into either the IFLA library or another institutional repository,  
1.2.4 Propose a special issue in the IFLA Journal on text-mining in the social sciences.

will try to identify speakers and if we cannot find an adequate number, we will put out a call for papers.

1.3.4 If funding is available a member of the SSLS will visit the proposed institution for the satellite in spring to review the facilities and make personal contacts with those involved in setting things up.

1.3.5 Collect papers from participants and save them in an institutional repository

1.3.6 We know there are many other details that could be articulated here, but there is a great deal of expertise in satellite planning on the SSLS.

spring of 2018

1.7.3. We held a discussion with the IFLA Journal editor about the possibility of publishing a special issue on text mining in the social sciences.

1.7.4 We have a proposed schedule for the first day of the satellite - a workshop on text mining the Hathi Trust.

<p>2. Analyse the IFLA Library corpus for trends in social science research to develop a more thorough understanding of the social science literature contained in the IFLA Library</p>	<p>2.1 The study will seek to identify patterns in subject/disciplinary coverage, in library settings being studied, and geographical interest and focus, and, finally, identifying and providing insights about the role of IFLA in influencing social science libraries and information centres around the globe.</p>	<p>2.2 Upon word of funding members of the SSLS will identify students to assist in the project, set up the necessary resources to mine the IFLA Library, and begin analysis of the results.</p>	<p>2.3.1 The project would be headed up by Debora Cheney, SSLS Section Secretary, Kayo Denda, past-Chair of SSLS with support from Lynne Rudasill, Chair. Any other members of the section are invited to participate 2.3.2 A library graduate student would be identified to work on the project.</p>	<p>2.4 We re requesting project funding in the amount of €2000 to pay the library student. Other software and technical support can be accessed without cost through our institutions or open access.</p>	<p>2.5.1 Initial results of our work will be presented at the satellite conference in Kuala Lumpur, probably as research in progress if we receive a positive reply from IFLA by January 2018. 2.5.2 The final results of the project will be written up as part of a special issue of the IFLA Journal on text mining in the social sciences.</p>	<p>2.6 We will attempt to spread the results of our work as widely as possible through both meetings and publications. Interest in what we are doing may be seen in citations to articles or questions and remarks during presentations. We should also be able to provide some very interesting results and suggestions to the IFLA Library and IFLA program planning.</p>	<p>2.7 We are awaiting word from the PC/GB to get started on this project.</p>
<p>3. We would like to define and describe how the social sciences fit</p>	<p>3.1 We would like approval for a conference program – Defining</p>	<p>3.2 We need to ask our members for suggested speakers, put out</p>	<p>3.3 By January 1, 2018 we need to put out a call and id individuals who we</p>	<p>3.4 Our section has consistently supported</p>	<p>3.5.1 The program will be part of the WLIC conference and</p>	<p>3.6 Attendance at the program will be one</p>	<p>3.7. We are currently working to identify</p>

into the concepts of text mining and digital humanities through the presentation of a program at WLIC in Kuala Lumpur.	the Digital Social Sciences – where we could explore the cross-over issues of the digital humanities and the digital social sciences and begin to show how the two can work together to solve some of our larger problems of understanding.	a call for papers, assign review responsibilities and the other necessary steps for supporting a conference program.	might solicit to engage in our program. We have somewhat flexible deadlines until we discover whether our satellite, project and program are all approved.	programs and developed satellites and we do not, at this point, need additional support although we would probably like to have translation at our program at WLIC.	we will work with HQ to make sure it is advertised. 3.5.2 The results of our three pronged exploration into text mining in the social sciences will be a special issue in the IFLA Journal 3.5.3 If possible additional results will be published in other academic journals.	measure of success, as will citations of the resulting work.	speakers and developing a call for participation.
4.							
5.							

## Resource requirements

If you wish to request resources for any of your planned activities, ensure the details above are complete, then copy the project and task details from above and add the necessary detail below.

**If you wish to request funds, it is extremely important that you submit the Action Plan to your Division Chair and HQ by the deadline 31 October 2017.**

The Professional Committee will discuss during November and agree in the December PC meeting a draft allocation of funds for anticipated reimbursements during 2018. Following confirmation of the level of PC Funds for 2018, the Division Chairs and HQ Professional Support Officer will communicate with Units in January/February to finalise the details. The PC would also appreciate hearing about resource requirements you already anticipate for 2019.

<p><b>Project or activity and Main task</b>  <i>Use your list above</i></p>	<p>Analyze the IFLA Library corpus for trends in social science research to develop a more thorough understanding of the social science literature contained in the Library. The purpose of the project is to better define where programming and publication of interest to libraries and librarians supporting social science research and researcher might be developed. Which sections are providing similar or complementary programs? What are the key areas of subject interest? The broad, interdisciplinary nature of the social sciences spotlights the “big questions” that need to be answered to support sustainable development as well as librarianship.</p>
<p><b>Resources</b>  <i>Do you need specific skills, money or technology? For what do you need resources in relation to this task? Match your needs again the resources listed below*</i></p>	<p>We will identify a subset of the IFLA Library focused on topics of interest to libraries and librarians supporting the broad domain of the social sciences using bibliographic software and will then do text mining using either NVivo or ATLAS.ti (which are available at at least one of our institutions). We will need some student support to identify the corpus of literature we will be mining and to help develop a thesaurus.</p>
<p><b>Amount of funding.</b>  <b>How much money would you like to request from Professional Committee Funds?</b>  <i>Explain your rationale for the estimated amount in each case.</i></p>	<p>We are estimating the need for €2000 to hire a student for approximately 150 hours at €13/hr. The investigators for the request are asking slightly lower than the usual rate that graduate students generally get at our institutions (€17.25). We need students who can reliably work with bibliographic research tools and text mining tools and our combined experience would indicate that this is enough time for individuals to accomplish the task.</p>
<p><b>Timing.</b>  <b>When would the money need reimbursement?</b>  <i>Usually reimbursements are made on production of invoices following completion of the work, however, pre-payment can be arranged in some circumstances</i></p>	<p>We would request payment when the work by the graduate student is completed, probably early summer 2018.</p>

## \* Resources

Use the following list in order to identify what kind of activity needs resourcing and therefore what details the PC will expect to read. If you have other details or requests, do not feel restricted to this list:

1. Project meeting (please note that the PC Funds are extremely limited so physical meetings that need funding are not encouraged unless necessary to move a project forward urgently; please try to conduct discussions online or via telephone conference and coordinate your work online where at all possible) –
  - a. why is the meeting needed and why can it not be conducted online,
  - b. who needs funding (give names),
  - c. where is the meeting planned and when (if known),
  - d. what costs cannot be covered by the project participant themselves (hotel, flight, local travel, subsistence);
2. Publications –
  - a. what document(s) need funding support,
  - b. how many copies need printing, if any,
  - c. what services are required, if any (editing, design, proof-reading, etc.),
  - d. delivery of the document (from where, to where, why);
3. Meeting/workshop logistics – (if this is a project team meeting, see above), ensure there are details to describe the meeting appended when you submit this funding request to the PC (how many people are expected, what are the objectives, who are you partnering with, when and where is it anticipated it will take place, who will be the local organiser),
  - a. what logistics need funding (computers, room hire, refreshments, printing),
  - b. what participant costs might need support (travel, accommodation),
  - c. what trainer costs are there (honorarium, travel, accommodation),
  - d. by what other means is the event being funded (participants' own costs, sponsors, etc.). Give details;
4. Webinar –
  - a. What is being planned and with whom,
  - b. Who is the target audience,
  - c. What technical requirements are there;
5. Software –
  - a. What software is required and why;

6. Advocacy materials –
  - a. See the relevant number above (project meeting, publication, webinar, etc.);
7. Other - funding item not covered by the categories above.

**Please see proposal that was sent along with this report and let us know if you have any questions.**

### **Next steps**

Please send your completed Action Plan to Joanne Yeomans ([joanne.yeomans@ifla.org](mailto:joanne.yeomans@ifla.org)) and your Division Chair by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017.

### **Questions?**

If you have questions or would like help with your Action Plan, please contact Joanne Yeomans ([joanne.yeomans@ifla.org](mailto:joanne.yeomans@ifla.org)) or your Division Chair. We're ready to help.