



IFLA Section Library Services to People with Special Needs

Minutes of Library Services to People with Special Needs Midterm Meeting

Teleconference (Zoom), 7-8 April, 2022
14:00 -16:00 CET

Members present:

April 7, 2022

Maela Uvodic, Chair (Croatia)
Janet Lee, Secretary (The United States of America)
Aly Velji, Information Coordinator (Canada)
Clayton Copeland (The United States of America)
Corinna Haas (Germany)
Jane Garner (Australia)
Lisa Krolak (Germany)
Samira Zahra (Germany)
Dolores Carungui (Philippines)
Marie Engberg Eiriksson (Denmark)
María Isabel Abalo (Argentina)
Gerhard Peschers

Apologies (and no response)

Caroline Smith (The United States of America)
Diego Anthoons (Belgium)
Maria Isabel Gutiérrez Sánchez (Spain)
Laia Vidal (Spain)
Miguel Rivera (Chile)
Sanjica Faletar Tanacković (Croatia)
Ingrid Källström (Sweden)
Bashiru Adamu (Nigeria)
Tilahun Shiferaw (Ethiopia)

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1. Welcome and Introduction

Section Chair, Maela Uvodic, welcomed the LSN Standing Committee Members to its two-day Mid-term meeting of the 2021-2022 year.

2. Attendance and apologies (Maela)

Maela listed the members who apologized for not being able to attend. They are included in the above listing with members who did not respond.

3. Approval of Minutes of LSN SC Meeting, March 4, 2022

The minutes were included with the distribution of documents by the Chair. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

4. Approval of Agenda

Approved by acclamation.

5. Report Division D meeting (Maela)

The very much awaited Handbook will not be completed before WLIC 2022. LSN has been approached by 3-4 potential members who are interested in being co-opted.

Attendees at the Division D meeting expressed frustration at this year's timeline for WLIC (early bird registration, finding speakers, etc.). There are two exceptions to the early bird registration for speakers who are confirmed after the deadline and recipients of grant awards.

A suggestion was made to include speaker presentations on video for those panels with speakers who cannot attend in person. Patrick will follow up.

There is adequate funding for translation services in the 8 IFLA languages. A suggestion was made to include Ukrainian as a gesture. There was no provision for captioning or for sign language. There is a small section in the program on accessibility, but it is primarily on physical accessibility.

Full program will be sent to Officers before posting online to avoid conflicts.

A question was raised regarding acknowledgement of the conflict in Ukraine and words of support. Patrick stated that the president will decide and if so, it would be during the opening ceremonies.

Attendees related forthcoming sessions at WLIC, including our session on Prison guidelines.

6. Action plan (update) and shortened version (Maela).

The Action plan has been updated and includes the UNDESA survey. Please confer with Maela if there are questions.

7. Invitation to Professional and Regional Structures networking.

IFLA Professional Council has invited officers to attend a networking event for Professional Division and Regional Division Officers to meet each other, to discuss work priorities, and identify points of intersection and possible collaboration. Officers, in groups of 3 will each have 2 minutes to introduce themselves and highlight their committee projects and initiatives. Participants will then rotate to new groups and to meet other colleagues.

Those invited include: Section Officers, SIG Convenors, Regional Division Chairs &/or Vice Chairs. Officers can delegate a non-officer to attend to represent the Unit.

Registration Required: Registration will close on Monday, 11 April 19:00 CEST

When:

- Session 1 Wednesday, 13 April 08:00 – 08:45 CEST
- Session 2 Wednesday, 13 April 15:00 – 15:45 CEST

Maela will introduce forthcoming Autism Spectrum guidelines and the LSN name change from the action plan.

7. B Overview discussion on WLIC LSN session

The discussion drifted to the 2022 WLIC LSN session. Corinna Haas was able to register during the early bird and obtained one of the stipends. It is from the Special Libraries working group and she will write a report for their site. There was a general discussion of the importance of an in-person conference, but the disadvantage of having it in Europe two years in a row.

The only dates available for the section meeting is the first day, Monday, July 25.

Lisa Krolak submitted a program on Prison Libraries and the guidelines on behalf of LSN and it was accepted. She is relatively assured that she will have an excellent and representative panel. The date and time of the session has not yet been announced, but hopefully will be announced after the Easter holidays. Lisa was not yet asked to do the lineup for the speakers, but several of the LSN committee members will be in attendance as will a librarian from Dublin. Maela will give opening remarks, Lisa will give a global overview on the opportunities and challenges of prison libraries, Jane will talk about the updated IFLA Guidelines on Library Services for Prisoners and then we will give to country examples: Miguel will talk about modernizing prison libraries in Chile and Jane Finlay (not in LSN) will talk about a recent prison library survey in Ireland.

Lisa also announced that the German Prison Library Association has designed a Peace flag with a bird/dove and the word "Peace" in 7 different languages on a rainbow background. It can be made into a poster or bookmarks. It is downloadable to show support for Ukraine or Peace in general.

(Note: During the informal meeting, time could be given to discuss informal activities such as visits to museums, cultural events, prison libraries, etc.).

8. Report on UNDESA survey (Maela)

Laia and Tilahun have volunteered to join the work group.

Timeline as follows:

- Sent Laia and Tilahun Accessibility guidelines
- Sent them previous survey and the report
- Format questions with answers that are easy to tabulate
- IFLA HQ (Valensiya) will provide LSN with an account for an online survey app (<https://www.alchemer.com/>)
- Deadlines:
 - April 20: Updated questions with answers
 - May 2: Edit and test survey
 - June 1: Disseminate the survey
 - End of June: Initial report due

Day 1 wrapped up with item 8. Lisa reminded all that she would not be in attendance the next day but did note that the Prison Guidelines were not listed, and it was confirmed that they are essentially complete.

Day 2 opened with a quick review of the agenda and a vote on the minutes. Both were approved.

Review of prior days meeting:

After the minutes and agenda were approved, Maela briefly reviewed the prior day's

events. Lisa submitted a successful proposal to WLIC and it was accepted. The panel will be primarily comprised of members of LSN. Maela offered to make a very brief welcome at the session.

Maela also asked that those in attendance at WLIC observe how the conference handles accessibility, both positive and needing improvement, and pass those on to her for the Accessibility report. There appear to be six LSN members who will be in attendance.

Rotterdam's WLIC will be hybrid.

Announcement. Ingrid Källström will be stepping down due to workplace issues. She was involved in both the accessibility and also refugee guidelines. Maela will check on the process for filling the remainder of her term.

9. Ongoing Guidelines report

a. Accessibility guidelines. Draft guidelines were distributed and Maela thanked Jane and Marie who wrote back with specific inputs.

b. Refugee guidelines. No agreement was reached regarding the title. Since there is some urgency due to its topic, it was agreed to go with the current wording of "Displaced populations" but with a subtitle that spells out the target audience and in the introduction.

11. Newsletter

Since Aly is delayed, we jumped from the Webpage to the newsletter. The day prior, Maela forwarded an announcement of IFLA's guidelines for newsletters as well as Accessibility guidelines as written by Maela.

LSN plans on publishing its first newsletter prior to 2022 WLIC.

Very short pieces will be published on:

As a way of promoting the Prison Guidelines session, Lisa will describe a writing competition that was held in German prisons and very successfully. (Lisa)

Introductory article about the start of the Autism Spectrum guidelines (Miguel & Maria)

UNDESSA survey (Maela)

Action plan update (Maela)

Refugee guidelines. (Nancy Bolt/Misako/?)

The Refugee guidelines are with Headquarters waiting to be approved. There was concern about the name change, which has now been adapted to include a fuller description in the subtitle and in the introduction. It now reads: International Guidelines for Library Services to Displaced Populations: Refugees|Migrants|Immigrants|Asylum seekers. Maela has distributed the guidelines and is seeking comment.

Maela will also confer with the LPD chair to review the newsletter for accessibility.

We will set a date for submissions after Easter.

10. Web page

All members will be involved with the web page, as recommended in the Action Plan. Because we have not been very active on the new webpage, Maela has edited the Action Plan to a more readable format and this will be added to the webpage.

IFLA HC has advised that all groups look at the Children and Young Adult webpage as a model of good design and one that we might want to follow.

In addition to the Action Plan, we need to promote the session in Dublin. We will first focus on adding new materials and then go back and add back in missing archives as we have time.

LSN might want to have a session that targets the webpage specifically.

Everyone may want to compare the old website to the new webpage. <https://origin-www.ifla.org/> Everyone should also look at the sections and verify that the links work.

12. WLIC 2022

WLIC was discussed throughout.

The next meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes to accommodate the extreme times and other personal commitments.