

Social Science Libraries Standing Committee meeting (SSLS)
Fall 2020 Minutes, August 18, 2020
8/18/2020, Held via Zoom, 9 am Mountain Time (Chair's time zone)

1. Meeting Called to Order at 9:05 am Mountain Time
 - a. Members present: Chair Eugene Hayworth, Secretary Robin Kear, Lynne Rudasill, Lindsay Ozburn, Wenli Gao, Ekaterina Shibaeva, Donatus Duesterhas, Muhammed Yousef Ali, Helen Yue
 - b. Guest: Megan Price, Professional Support Officer from IFLA, feel free to contact her if you have any questions, she is here to assist us, megan.price@ifla.org
2. Update on Standing Committee membership
 - a. 20 members from 11 countries
 - b. We are now full; there are more inquiries to join
 - c. <https://www.ifla.org/standing-committee/05>
3. RELINDIAL SIG report/discussion
 - a. Donatus Duesterhas: They have sent out documents, the history of RELINDIAL and the statistics on the group over the past few years.
 - b. The SIG is under review this year. What is the process for evaluation? Megan: This is her first year at IFLA coordinating these SIG reviews, recommendations by Chair and Division Chair are considered, there will be an upcoming meeting about SIG reviews, early September, we should know the status.
4. Discussion of Action Plan
 - a. SSLS as a Dynamic Unit - Refocusing and redeveloping for the future
 - b. Discuss and finalise achievable projects/activities and associated actions and responsibilities within each Focus Area
 - i. Focus Area 1) Renewal of the purpose and participation in the Social Science Libraries Section
 - ii. Focus Area 2) Continue working with the IFLA Journal Board and others to provide training programs that support librarians to apply useful and productive research methods within and outside of their institutions to improve professional practice.
 - c. Discuss results and impact, decide what factors would determine the success and prove the impact of our projects/activities
 - d. Set up meetings with representatives from other Units with which we may collaborate on work.
 - e. **Discussion:**
 - i. Zoom meetings are a good way to reach many parts of the world, it is important to include as many IFLA members as possible
 - ii. Status of the Pakistan library conference: Yousef: all the higher education institutions in Pakistan are still closed until September 15, after that the Pakistan library group will plan for an online conference
 - iii. A separate meeting with Celia Emmelhainz (our Information Coordinator) on our Web presence, to update us on what direction our web presence can take
 - iv. A webinar on research methods, a series, basic statistics, analysis,

- **ACTION ITEM:** Lindsay Ozburn and Wenli Gao will investigate a webinar or webinar series on these topics and write a description/plan.
- 5. Planning for Rotterdam, Netherlands
 - a. Satellite with Library and Theory Research Unit and IFLA Journal is still going forward for 2021
 - i. Program: there will be a smaller satellite program in Rotterdam based on what would have been discussed in Dublin
 - b. Discussion on importance of programs at IFLA WLIC: Megan Price: in-person WLIC sessions are important to share the strength of our section, to share at WLIC.
 - c. Will statistics be kept on webinars throughout this year outside of WLIC? If they have registration, it will be easy to find out, but some unites may not have registration.
 - i. We should keep track of anyone who attends any of our online programs.
- 6. IFLA Governance Review Response Letter: Comments, Questions and Concerns
 - a. See the original letter here: <https://bit.ly/2W0Lax8>
 - i. Many sections signed onto the letter
 - b. Discussion: Concerns discussed about the equity of proposed Regional Council representation, would a sub-distribution weighting be better, one that is more equitable by population or number of countries or number of libraries?
 - i. Would members feel they had to choose between being a regional volunteer or a professional area volunteer?
 - c. Discussion: Proposed elected number of Governing Board members seemed like a big reduction (from 10 to 3); professional committees would have better representation on the Governing Board in the proposed board
 - d. Discussion: Professional Council new structure: Will this result in a collapse of sections? Megan Price: it means sections will be better distributed, expand the number of divisions for professional committee leaders (6 or 8 divisions, even numbers in each category), no plans to collapse any units, easier for the division chair to be involved in units assigned
 - e. **ACTION ITEM:** Gene and Robin will be attending one of the five upcoming professional round tables on the IFLA Governance Review. Megan Price will find out who is meant to attend these Professional Round Tables.
- 7. New Business
 - a. IFLA New Events Calendar for Professional Units
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Gene will share the link with the Committee
 - b. Annual Report and Action Plan
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Gene will schedule a meeting for October
 - c. Lynne Rudasill: Possible social hour for SSLS committee? We are missing the social connection of Dublin WLIC.
- 8. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 am Mountain Time