

Wednesday, 16 November 2022, 16:00 - 17:00 CET
Division G Zoom Meeting Minutes

Attending: Te Paea Paringatai (chair), Jeffrey Knapp, Ann Okerson (Secretary/News Media); Emma Farrow (E4GDH SIG); Harri Sahavirta, Petra Hauke (ENSULIB); Bethany McGowan, Beth Ketterman (Health & Biosciences); Ekaterina Shibaeva (Social Sciences); Ted Westervelt, Andrea Wirth (SOCRS);

1. ROUND TABLE - UNIT UPDATES. Te Paea welcomed everyone with thanks for their good work and submissions to IFLA. Quick round table reports follows:

A. ENSULIB - Completed action plan & annual report. Co-opted two new members. Are preparing to announce Green Library award. Have a long list of new projects for next year (including a new book project).

B. Serials & Other Continuing Resources - Completed reports for IFLA. Next business meeting will be after the US Thanksgiving holiday. Reached out to ARL to express interest in partnering on their OA satellite. The special issue on Scholarly Metrics is due soon. Described the Section's work on OA mandates. Section has great volunteers working on various efforts.

C. Health & Biosciences - An active group. Called for 2 replacement members. Held a webinar yesterday. Reached out to ARL to express interest in partnering on the OA satellite. Edited soon-to-appear book data literacy. Formed a Working Group on the role of Wikipedia in health and info literacy.

D. News Media - Completed reports for IFLA HQ. Will be co-opting to replace a retired member. Asked IFLA HQ to sort out some naming confusion (News Media vs. New Media, which does not exist). Awaiting definitive instructions regarding WLIC open programme submissions.

E. Social Sciences - Reported ongoing business as usual. Section has organized the webinar series on "Research Methods in Librarianship." More information is found here:

<https://www.ifla.org/research-methods-in-librarianship-webinar-series/>

F. Evidence for Global and Disaster Health SIG - Meeting with HIFA (Health Information for All) about a joint campaign in relation to health information as a human right, with WHO as third partner. Builds on SIG's E4GDH work in this area over the previous two years. The work will inform 2023 WLIC session. Working on global and disaster health advocacy toolkit, with practical advice and good practice examples. Alongside a literature search, working group members will identify examples of librarians providing evidence in times of crisis within their own regions.

2. STRATEGIC MATTERS

A. PC Leadership. Te Paea reported on the upcoming election of PC Chair. Last day to vote is November 30th. The next PC is meeting at end of November, in case we have any matters to escalate. List of upcoming meetings is at bottom of these minutes.

B. Questions & Comments

Q. Has the former Secretary General's relationship to the SIGL been severed as well? A. Former SG is now an independent member of SIGL, not as SG of IFLA. Some open issues about the membership of the SIGL are as yet unresolved, and there remain various other issues to work through regarding the future of IFLA.

Q. What was the amount of the settlement to the former SG? A. Not known at this time. Will advocate for that transparency.

Q. Helen Mandl is acting SG. How/when will the permanent secretary be appointed? A. The GB will be managing the next selection process. No details yet.

Q. Will there be a special assembly, as previously referenced? A. This was delayed, waiting on outcome of legal proceedings. The GB will determine how to proceed for the good of the organization. Many conversations but nothing formalized at this time.

Q. Requested update about the Regional Council. A. The Council is finding its place and determining how best to add value without duplicating the work of the PC. (It was noted that we'd like to engage with them to reach out to many parts of the world.)

3. DIVISION MATTERS

A. There were many comments/questions regarding WLIC 2023. Committees are working on developing detail -- right now we're in a waiting game. There is lots of interest in holding Satellites (all Rotterdam venues appear to be filled up).

B. Many concerns were expressed about hybrid format information coming out very late (or not at all); there's too little guidance about this aspect of WLIC, and the hybrid format appears to have fallen off the messaging that's come out recently. Everyone needs that information now in order to develop our CFPs. Group appreciates that hybrid is expensive -- perhaps IFLA is trying to encourage an in-person congress (also, IFLA generates more income from in-person WLIC)? IFLA previously promised hybrids for two years; expectations were raised. Committee members are waiting for clarification.

C. Section reviews - a small PC committee is working on this and has a draft outline, which will go to PC and then to the GB for approval. We can expect more info after GB meeting,

D. Will there be an in-person WLIC in 2024? There was a call, closed in September. Venue -- non-Europe. No further information available at this time. The group strongly urges IFLA to give committees a heads-up about this matter BEFORE the 2023 WLIC, so that at our business meetings in Rotterdam we can already plan appropriately.

4. ADJOURNMENT. Meeting was adjourned at 16:55 CET

For information only: Confirmed and Proposed GB and PC meeting dates to April 2023

- Professional Council, 25 November, 20:00 CET - teleconference
- Governing Board Monday - Wednesday, 5, 6 & 7 December, time TBD, The Hague, Netherlands
- Professional Council Friday, 17 February, 13:00 CET - teleconference
- Governing Board Monday, 27 February, time TBD – teleconference
- Professional Council Friday, 14 April, 06:00 CET - teleconference
- Governing Board Monday, 24 April, time TBD - teleconference

Submitted by Ann Okerson, Secretary