



## IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Standing Committee

<http://www.ifla.org/metropolitan-libraries>

Business Meeting  
on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Over Zoom

### 1. Welcome, attendance, general introductions, apologies

Carolyn Anthony, Chair (Public Library Association, USA); Brian Bannon (NY, USA); Nick Buron, Information Coordinator (NY, USA); Pablo Bruno D'Amico (Buenos Aires, Argentina); Suzie Gately (Newcastle, Australia); Moe Hosseini-Ara (Toronto, Canada); Ivancica Dukec Kero (Zagreb, Croatia); John Spears (Buffalo, USA); Mathilde Servet (Paris, France); Katri Vanttinen (Helsinki, Finland); Flippie Van der Walt (Cape Town, South Africa); Ton van Vlimmeren (Utrecht, Netherlands); Lucia Werder, Secretary (Bremen, Germany)

Apologies: Eman Alshamari (Qatar); Carme Galve Montore (Barcelona, Spain); Neeza Singh (Chandigarh, India); Knut Skanson (Oslo, Norway); Tian Zhan (Guangzhou, China); Cao Zhong (Shanghai, China)

The SC meeting was called to order at 15:00 p.m. MEZ.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda

The committee accepted the proposed agenda extended by the following topic: IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Short Film Award as part of "A Corto di Libri".

### 3. Elections for Standing Committee---5 vacancies

Carme and Lucia are running for a new term.

Jasmina from Belgrade was nominated by Carolyn.

Any suggestions of candidates are welcome, if needed Mathilde can nominate a person who is searching for a nominator.

The deadline for the nomination is 24 February 2023, 17:00 CET. More information about the elections: <https://www.ifla.org/g/elections/professional-section-committee-member-2023/>

### 4. Public Library of the Year Award---applications Feb 21--April 23

Mathilde reported that the next meeting is planned for the beginning of May. She asks all SC members to encourage libraries in their country to send their application. To qualify in 2023, the library must be built and opened between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022, completely refurbished libraries can also send their applications. The focus of the award remains on architecture.

The call for submissions starts 21 February and ends 23 April 2023.

<https://www.ifla.org/g/public-libraries/ifla-systematic-public-library-of-the-year/>

## **5. MetLib Learning Circle Update--Mathilde and Neeza**

Mathilde reports about the MetLib Learning Circle: Between 15 and 17 peoples from 5 continents and 12 countries are part of the Learning Circle.

Three sessions have taken part so far:

First session about targeting the topics, the second with a notion from Tommi about conviviality and the third session was about telling the stories of libraries. Mathilde will share the slides of the sessions and of upcoming sessions via basecamp.

## **6. Satellite session on Metropolitan Libraries and Urban Development in Rotterdam, August 18<sup>th</sup>**

Ton reported that MetLib's request for a Satellite meeting in Rotterdam August 18 on the topic of «Realising the Opportunity: Libraries in Sustainable Urban Development» has been approved by the IFLA Professional Council. Mathilde and Ton have agreed to co-chair this meeting on behalf of MetLib. The host organization will be the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS), located in Rotterdam on the campus of Erasmus University, with Nigel Browne as coordinator.

Everyone is invited to share experiences or to suggest a speaker. Remote participation or pre recorded sessions of speakers are possible.

The session is planned for an audience of 75 participants, including participants and speakers from outside the library world like architects.

## **7. Inquiry on Impact Measurement, jointly with Statistics and Evaluation Section and National Libraries Section---joint program at WLIC**

Carolyn reported that until now not many responses to the premininary survey have been send back and asked the SC members to encourage MetLib libraries in their countries to respond to the survey. Moe suggested sending out the survey to the library associations for receiving better responses.

Regarding EBLIDA Ton said that a set of questions about SDGs is still in progress. Ton will send the contact information of Carolyn to the persons who are involved in order to connect these measurements.

## **8. MetLib program for WLIC? Due 3/13/23**

The Business meeting will take place on Sunday, 8/20/23 (timeslot is not yet fixed), it's planned as hybrid meeting.

A joint program with Statistics and Evaluation Section on impact measurement is planned. Any other compelling topic that should be pursued can be risen by the SC members: like open Q&A, panels, workshops with up to 90 minutes of time...

Call for sessions and guidelines have been posted on basecamp on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn will send the call to Moe.

Moe will send a proposal of a colleague about the social impact of libraries in the city to the SC.

## **9. IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Short Film Award**

John reports about the status of the IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Short Film Award (for more information about the award also see:

<https://www.ifla.org/g/metropolitan-libraries/ifla-metropolitan-libraries-short-film-award/>)

The award is part of "A Corto di libri", a contest for short films about libraries and librarians, organized by Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB). The IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Short Film Award is given to the best short film about public libraries in large cities and metropolitan areas, among all the submitted films. Everyone, as an individual or an institution, is eligible to apply.

John indicated that problems with MetLib involvement in 2023 are the lack of a sponsor (1.000 €) and also the timing of the MetLib conference in October rather than May. The Italian group responded that the IFLA partnership is critical to them and they would be willing to change their award schedule to later in the year, following the MetLib Conference in October. Re recruiting a sponsor, John indicated that, when Salt Lake City sponsored the award, they gave the award money directly to IFLA to enable the winner's attendance as that was more acceptable to his officials (than issuing a check to a foreign library).

Moe will contact his foundation about sponsoring; Brian is also thinking about the sponsorship maybe a co-sponsorship is possible. John will send the information for sponsors to Moe and Brian.

Maybe in the future funding via the MetLib budget is possible, Carolyn will ask about this.

The reason for the MetLib SC to participate in the award: it creates a buzz around films and libraries, with IFLA and MetLib attached, supports creativity around films and libraries short films.

In order to make the selection process at the MetLib conference more attractive, only 5 films, that are pre-selected by A Corto di Libri will be shown at the congress in future.

## 9. Highlights of IFLA Div A meeting Dec 2022

Carolyn presents the following highlights of the meeting Dec 2022:

- The Process of recruitment of a new Secretary General for IFLA has started
- The Regional Council (RC) joined the PC for the first part of the meeting. There was a huge appetite for collaboration, co-operation and support between the RC and the PC. As a new Council the Regional Groups have spent a lot of time working on their organization.
- The newly updated IFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto 2022 has been launched by the Public Library Section (also translated in several languages), for more information see <https://www.ifla.org/g/public-libraries/public-library-manifesto/>

## 10. Other items for discussion & Committee member updates

**MetLib Conference 2023:** Pablo reported that several meetings with the international committee have taken place and the call for papers was sent out to the SC members (in English and Spanish); the call will also be sent out to different communities.

Next steps: planning the conference with library visits, keynote speakers (any suggestions are welcome), planning with the host are on a good track, problems with money transfer in foreign currencies have to be solved regarding the fees and they are still looking for some sponsors.

Important Deadlines:

- March 31, 2023: Deadline for Submission of Abstracts
- May 12, 2023: Notification of Acceptance of Papers

- June 30, 2023: Full Text of Presentation Due to MetLib

Katri reported that Stockholm city libraries have left IFLA to speed up the improving process of the administration.

Helsinki public libraries are also concerned about the administration of IFLA and are planning to send a letter to IFLA regarding this topic, Mathilde added that in France they are also concerned about the situation of IFLA.

## **12. Next Meetings**

Next meeting of the MetLib Standing Committee is scheduled April 13, 2023, 8:00 am, CST via Zoom.

Further upcoming SC meetings: 15.6.2023 and August 20 at WLIC in Rotterdam

## **13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 15:55 p.m. (MEZ).

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia Werder  
Secretary, Metropolitan Libraries Section