



IFLA Section Academic and Research Libraries

Academic and Research Libraries Section Business Meeting (online) 18 & 20 September 2023

MINUTES

Present:

Miriam Linda Akeriwe, Ursula Arning, Mimi Calter (Chair), Bertil Dorch (Guest), Karen Downing, Adefunke Ebijuwa, Antonio Cobos Flores, Jérôme Fronty (Information Coordinator), Joanna Hare, Lorraine Haricombe, Sarah Kaddu, Lily Ko (Secretary), Jayshree Mamtora, Tuelo Ntlotlang, Tiiu Tarkpea, Shaharima Parvin.

Apologies:

Bianca Amaro, Siviwe Bangani, Adriana Cybele Ferrari, Marisa King, Xin Li, Mary Ngure, Astrid Verheusen.

1. Welcome
 - 1.1. Introductions & Apologies
Mimi welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Approval of the Agenda
Mimi suggested to move IFLA Journal Special Issue to the beginning of the agenda because Bertil had another engagement and would leave earlier. The agenda was approved.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting
The minutes were approved as distributed.
4. ARL Action Plan 2023- 2025
IFLA Journal Special Issue (Lead: Jayshree)
As discussed at the Rotterdam meeting and again at the meeting/s this week, Bertil and Jayshree agreed to continue with the production of the special issue of the IFLA Journal. They finalised a Call for Papers and posted it on Basecamp ([view the document](#)).
The Call would be released for final distribution after reviewed by Steve Witt, IFLA Journal Editor. The complete process will take 12 months. The final will be published by the end of 2024.
Language: in English with abstracts in other languages if available.
Submission deadline: 15 December 2023



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Topic: Research trends ranging from Scholarly Communication initiatives to Artificial Intelligence to Research Impact and many others

Members commented the submission timeline was short and discussed the possibility to extend the deadline.

Mimi thanked Bertil and Jayshree to put the work together and move forward with this item.

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting

5.1 Planned Attendance at IFLA WLIC 2024

Mimi invited members to share their planned attendance at WLIC 2024 in Dubai. Some members had concerns about LGBTQ+ terminology cannot be used in the title of a session or paper nor be listed in the program. They tended not to attend the WLIC 2024. Some members plan to attend depending on the budget allowed.

5.2 Mentor appointment

Members agreed the mentor appointment of Jim O'Donnell.

Jayshree recommended Bertil Dorch as another suitable candidate for the mentor appointment, and Mimi agreed to initiate the process.

6. Professional Committee

6.1 Announcements from the Professional Committee (Mimi)

Infinity Platform

A new tool for action planning. Training was open to chairs only, will extend to secretaries and information coordinators at a later stage.

6.2 Request for items to be raised to the Professional Committee

NIL item

7. Information Coordinator's Report (Jerome)

7.1 Review of social media platforms

Members agreed that the ARL-current-in-use social media platforms, Facebook, X (Twitter) are fine. Manpower issue was discussed if managing additional platform(s).

Members agreed LinkedIn was a professional platform. Jerome would explore how many other IFLA sections are using LinkedIn.

Shaharima volunteered to manage the LinkedIn account.

Adefunke volunteered to manage the Facebook account. Lily would be the back-up administrator.

Antonio agreed to continue to manage the X (Twitter) account.

8. Country Trends (Lily and Tiiu)

Lily thanked members who had submitted their country trend reports. She also reminded other members to submit their country trend reports once ready.

9. Annual Reports for 2022-23

Gülçin would submit the annual report for 2022-23 when ready.

10. ARL Action Plan Development for 2023- 2025

10.1 Infinity Platform

Discussed in 6.1 above.

10.2 Strategic Direction 1: Strengthen the Global Voice of Libraries



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10.2.1. WLIC 2023 Satellite Conference

It was confirmed that Satellite Conference must be held in the Emirates region. Members agreed not to hold the Satellite Conference in Dubai in 2024 and would go ahead to plan for 2025.

Members also discussed the possibility to hold the mid-term meeting.

10.2.2 Blogs (Lead: Miriam)

Miriam volunteered to manage the Blog.

Jerome mentioned that two people managing the Blog in the past. The second volunteer is needed.

Mimi encouraged every member to write and contribute to blog posts.

10.2.3 Hot Topics (Lead: Lorraine)

Lorraine agreed to continue to lead the Hot Topics Team.

Karen, Lily, Shaharima continued as team members.

10.3 Strategic Direction 2: Inspire and Enhance Professional Practice

10.3.1 IFLA Journal Special Issue (Lead: Jayshree)

Discussed in 4 above.

10.4 Strategic Direction 3: Connect and Empower the Field

10.4.1 Webinars (Lead: Reggie/Xin)

Reggie agreed to lead this Project.

Continued to look for volunteers.

Tuelo mentioned the upcoming webinar had been scheduled in October.

Jerome would help the publicity of this webinar.

10.4.2 Joint WLIC Session

It was agreed not attempt to pursue a joint session.

10.4.3 Travel Grant (Lead: Astrid)

Members discussed the focus should be on young professionals or students should be included because there were a lot of students applied the travel grant.

Jayshree, Mari and Ursula suggested using an [online application form](#) for members' consideration.

The funding status was discussed.

10.5 Strategic Direction 4: Optimise our Organisation

10.5.1 Communications Plan (Lead: Marisa/Jerome)

Marisa agreed to continue to manage the Newsletter.

11 Committee Member Roles and Responsibilities

Mimi encouraged each member to take an active role to contribute to ARL.

12 Ideas for New Activities, Programs & Partnerships

Mimi welcomes and always looks for new ideas.

13 Additional business

The new Open Science Advisory Committee was discussed.

14 Next meeting

Our next business meeting will be held in December 2023. More information to follow.