



## Section on Education and Training – Mid-Year Meeting

<https://www.ifla.org/set>

**Minutes of the Mid-Year Meeting (in Zoom)  
19 February 2021**

### **Attendance on 19 February 2021:**

Kendra Albright – Chair (USA), Joan Weeks – Information Coordinator (USA), Albina Krymskaya – Secretary (Russia), Saif Aljabri (Oman – Member), Howayda Kamel (Egypt– Member), Jaya Raju (South Africa – Member), Ilmar Vaaro (Estonia – Member), Jennifer Brach-Mueller (Canada – Member), Anna Maria Tamaro (Italy – Member), Thomas Chaimbault-Petitjean (France – Member), Susanne List-Tretthahn (Austria – Corresponding Member), Sohaimi Zakaria (Malaysia – Member), Susmita Chakraborty (India – Member)

Observers: Micheline Brucke, Felli Tu-Keefner, Egbert Sanches

### **1. Opening and confirmation of the agenda**

The meeting was opened at 9.00 – 10.00 am (New York). The agenda was confirmed for the meeting.

### **2. Welcome**

Kendra welcomed all those who presented. She mentioned that SET was very active this year. She thanked Albina who's been instrumental and making sure SET was organized, and Joan who has been managing the website. Also, Kendra thanked all SC members who contributed into SET's activity.

### **3. Update from the Section Chair (Kendra Albright)**

Kendra reminded that SET had four projects on its action plan. The most active right now and has been BSLISE that is the jewel our crown. Another one was to advance the profession through understanding best practices and knowledge management education. Because of the pandemic SET subgroup on KM just decided to postpone that one more year to be able to get back together. A third one is to improve the training of library professionals in research and evaluation methods to engage practitioners and evidence based practice. The last one, which is to adapt education and training to the global vision, was initiated last year.

### **4. Report from the Information Coordinator (Joan Weeks)**

John told about changes that were made on SET webpage. She's been trying to design all information posted on the webpage more convenient for users. Also, she reminded that since last September SET has had its presence on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Susanne suggested making a sub-section under Events section with past events. Everyone agreed on that it was a great idea to keep all events.

Kendra thanked Joan on updating content on SET webpage.

### **5. Report from SET Secretary (Albina Krymskaya)**

Albina reminded about several events SET had last year such as a two-day mini-conference in November, a webinar series SET launched in November as well. The last project was initiated by Susmita. So far SET had four webinars - 3 webinars in November-December with Susmita and Jennifer as organizers and moderators; the last one was with Anna Maria as one of the presenters on Digital Libraries.

One of the best results SET achieved was a showcasing SET's experience on IFLA website - <https://www.ifla.org/node/93519>.

Albina highlighted two main SET's achievements:

- a. SET started a presence on Facebook on September 10, 2020 – so far it had 467 followers – 112 posts.
- b. On Instagram – on October 26, 2020 – 70 publications – 302 followers.
- c. YouTube – on September 28 – 47 subscribes – 3 recordings of webinars. The fourth one is shortly uploaded.
- d. SET proposed a joint project for Division IV units – A Webinar Series with LIS Students as presenters.

Kendra mentioned that IFLA headquarters noticed SET's active work and invited us to be a spotlight for influence so what Albina showed on the website was an invitation by headquarters to show off some of the good work that SET was doing.

## **6. Division IV Update (Albina Krymskaya)**

IFLA Division IV had two meetings with sharing experiences. It was great to see what other sections do.

IFLA provided a series of Zoom upskilling opportunities. These were informal events where you got to "steer the ship," try things out, and ask questions. The goal was to answer as many of your questions as possible.

## **7. Report from the Convener, LIS Education in Developing Countries Special Interest Group (Saif Al-Jabri)**

LIS Education in Developing Countries Special Interest Group has been always in connection with some of the colleagues from all over the development countries. The only country that SIG had no news was Iran. SIG was going to have a webinar in March. Saif also suggested to SET SC to discuss possibilities of their participation in SIG's webinars.

## **8. Report from SC members on SET's projects**

Anna Maria Tammaro reported out about the IFLA Academy. SET plans to have a Summer School this summer. It submitted a funding proposal but there has not been an answer yet. This budget was planned for the secretary, and two students, as well as for publication material promotional material. Anna Maria suggested if anyone from SET is interested in joining, they are welcome.

Jaya Raju provided a detailed report on IFLA BSLISE Working Group.

Mapping Library and Information Science (LIS) education programs:

- The intention of the BSLISE is to develop a regularly updated, international database and asset map, capturing information about LIS schools, their programs and local structures as a response to one of the recommendations of the IFLA Building Strong LIS Education White Paper (2018).
- The BSLISE hosted a webinar on Feb. 9, 2021 on its Mapping LIS Education Programs initiative for attendees to learn about the international survey, directory and map of LIS education programs developed thus far. Technical specialists, drawn from the BSLISE Working Group, presented the development of the survey, directory and map, and provided a demonstration. LIS leaders (IFLA President Christine Mackenzie; ALISE President Sandy Hirsh; and EDICIC President Carlos Alberto Ávila Araújo) addressed opportunities, needs and sustainability of the directory and map from professional, education and research perspectives, respectively. The webinar attracted 392 registrants with a total of 161 individuals participating. An anti-Semitic Zoombombing incident occurred which has been reported to appropriate authorities and the IFLA Professional Committee is reviewing IFLA

raising awareness of such deplorable behaviour and providing guidance to prevent and manage similar situations.

Guidelines for Professional Library and Information (LIS) education programs:

- The Guidelines are intended to serve as a framework for LIS education programs and to assist stakeholders in planning, developing and assessing the quality of LIS education and to identify the knowledge areas an LIS professional should have to practice and continue to develop.
- The BSLISE submitted in October 2020 a proposal to the IFLA Standards Committee for the development of guidelines for LIS education programs to update IFLA's 2012 Guidelines for LIS Educational Programs.
- The IFLA Standards Committee informed the BSLISE in early January 2021 that the proposal was accepted in principle, following which intensive work on the Guidelines development continued, targeting June/July 2021 for final submission of the Guidelines to the IFLA Standards Committee.
- The Guidelines development included the creation of a new definition of 'library and information science' and the development of foundational knowledge areas (FKAs) rather than core competencies in LIS. These eight areas are conceptualised as foundational because LIS professionals will build on them to enhance their professional knowledge and skills.
- The draft Guidelines, informed by the new definition of LIS and the FKAs that were developed, was completed in December 2020.
- The draft Guidelines are currently (February-March 2021) in a broad consultation process via an online feedback instrument targeting key organizations for official responses and general listservs, as well as five online forums distributed globally among different language and time zones for maximum feedback. All are invited to provide feedback, see <https://bslise.org/lis-education-guidelines/>.

Both the above initiatives are part of the Action Plans of SET and LTR and have been conducted in communication with SET, LTR and LISEDC-SIG members.

Student Spotlight Project:

The Student Spotlight Project emerged out of an internship program with the BSLISE by student members of the iLab, a hands-on learning laboratory, at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). It profiles experiences and views of LIS students from around the world. The project is co-ordinated by BSLISE Working Group members responsible for its communication and online content.

Student LIS Voices: Peer-to-Peer

This is a new initiative that is just getting off the ground and also involves BSLISE student interns. It aims to connect LIS students globally to communicate and discuss the present and future of the LIS field. The peer-to-peer exchange among LIS students is intended to create a platform to highlight experiences, engage ideas and express opinions about LIS education and the profession. This project too is co-ordinated by BSLISE Working Group members responsible for its communication and online content.

Visit <https://bslise.org/news/projects-and-initiatives/> for other projects and initiatives of the BSLISE communications subgroup such as the 'BSLISE YouTube Channel Development'. The strong social media presence of the BSLISE over the last year is due to the work of BSLISE student interns Alexandra Voorhees, Amanda Thompson, Alice Herring, Alena Katina, Jo Anna Rohrbaugh and Sulaiman Alhemyid. Please keep updated about BSLISE activities on its website <https://bslise.org/>, Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bslise>, [Twitter](#) [@BSLISE ifla](#) and [Instagram](#) [https://www.instagram.com/bslise\\_ifla/](https://www.instagram.com/bslise_ifla/).

Jaya thanked Albina for promoting BSLISE and working with student interns.

Kendra asked Egbert who presented as an observer about any news from LTR on a joint project on research methods. Egbert informed that LTR had surveys with different schools from different regions. Also, they planned to have interview with colleagues to get deeper understanding.

### **9. New projects of SET**

Albina reported out that a couple of weeks ago she sent a list with projects ideas. See the link. These projects are for social media and for online running. Albina thanked those who showed willingness to participate in organizing the projects. Susanne List-Tretthahn informed that she invited some members of professional associations.

### **10. Announcements (Kendra Albright and Albina Krymskaya)**

A General Assembly on February 12 – IFLA’s Members expressed their strong support for changes implementing the Federation’s Governance Review. IFLA will now move rapidly to launch the nominations and elections process for 2021. See <https://www.ifla.org/node/93615>

### **11. Other Business (All)**

Susmita suggested SET member to cooperate with her LIS school in India, since she became the head of the department and she has authority to sign cooperation agreements.

### **Close of the Meeting with Vote of Thanks (Kendra Albright)**