



IFLA Section Reference and Information Services

Minutes of Business Meeting I: RISS, 5 August 2021
Teleconference

11:00 AM - 12:24PM ET

1. Welcome: Chair, Kimberley Bugg /USA.
2. Attendees: Marydee Ojala /USA, Min Chou /USA, Polly Boruff-Jones /USA, Ayanda Lebele /Botswana, Zuzanna Sendor /Poland, Laura Ballestra /Italy, Dmitriy Kosenko /Russia, and Laverne Page /USA. Apologies were sent from other SC members who were not able to attend: Philippa Andreasson /Sweden, Christine Brown /Canada, Jin Hongya /China, Rodney Malesi /Kenya, and Anne Reddacliff /Australia.
3. The Chairs' agenda was approved.
4. Officer reports: Chair, Kimberly Bugg, provided an overview of activities during the year and thanked Christine Brown (former RISS chair) for her support and assistance. Secretary, Marydee Ojala posted minutes in Basecamp from our last meeting and talked about the upcoming RISS Aug. 17 session. Information Officer, Laverne Page spoke about her posting activity on Facebook and her participation with the Infographic work and her review of the South Africa chapter of the IFLA publication, *Government Landscape & Libraries*.
5. Introduction of new officers: Chair, Kimberley Bugg; Secretary, Laverne Page; and Information Officer, Min Chou.
6. Information and an overview of the new IFLA governance structure was presented by Kimberley, Marydee and Ayande Lebele, a new RISS member and the new Vice Chair of the IFLA Sub-Saharan Africa Region.
7. Report on the RISS pre-recorded session at WLIC: "Librarians on the Front Lines: Combatting Misinformation, Disinformation, Mal-information and Fake News." 10:45 am - 11:30 am - 17 August 2021; ET (New York time); Followed by live Q&A from 11:30 to Noon.
8. Update on Action Plan: This will be reviewed during Business Meeting II. During the current year, 90% of the current Action Plan was accomplished.
9. RISS project updates and proposals: In emails sent before this meeting, Marydee urged for SC current and incoming members to consider which projects we should be working on going forward. Time zones have been a big issue with our meetings this year and several members could not attend this business meeting so she suggested that SC members post more on Basecamp, or email Kimberley with ideas for activities for the next year. She made suggestions, such as a project proving the value of reference work. She wrote, "We've heard for years that the internet makes reference librarians obsolete. I don't happen to believe that, but some data proving our value would be useful. Another possibility would be to show what reference work looks like in the "new normal". Whatever the "new normal" or the "next normal", as some are calling it,

will look like, it could change drastically our work flows and overall mission."

Philippa Andreasson sent this suggestion: "An additional area of daily work that still triggers my interest is the delicate balancing roll of reference and information workers in direct contact with users with regard to digital security and protection of integrity of users' data. It is at this point in a library setting that errors may be made which can sorely test the high ratings of trust libraries and librarians have in many societies. I'm not sure how best RISS could tackle this but best practice guidelines or simple 'what not to do' checklists might be achievable."

Kimberley and Polly talked about the mis-information theme and future projects. To contribute more to the discussion about misinformation, Polly provided a site <<http://glassroom.org>> Ayanda suggested a possible workshop and as an example, described an IFLA Africa Section project.

Kimberley stated that one goal is to update the IFLA site. She suggested that we not immediately initiate another guideline project but update existing guidelines. She suggested that "we reuse, recycle and celebrate what has already been done." Also, she requested suggestions for more dynamic programing and social media activities.

As for RISS Guidelines, Laura informed us that the guidelines committee has completed its work and that members will receive a copy.

Funding: Funds are available for RISS use. Suggestions were solicited for projects which would require funding.

10. Planning is starting for WLIC 2022. Topics are requested and RISS should also consider a possible satellite event.

11. Other matters: Min Chou provided details about the WLIC 2021 Information Literacy Section session.

RISS Business Meeting #2 is scheduled for Aug. 20, 2021 11:00AM ET

12. Adjournment: RISS Business Meeting, 12:24PM

Submitted by Laverne Page