



Minutes of Division G Inaugural Meeting  
Teleconference (Zoom), 22 September, 2021  
15:00-16:00 CEST

### Attendance:

#### Division G

Te Paea Paringatai Chair Division G [tepaea.paringatai@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:tepaea.paringatai@canterbury.ac.nz) NEW ZEALAND

**To be elected** Secretary Division G

#### Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section

Harri Sahavirta Chair [harri.sahavirta@hel.fi](mailto:harri.sahavirta@hel.fi) FINLAND

#### Health and Biosciences Libraries Section

Bethany McGowan Chair [bmcgowa@purdue.edu](mailto:bmcgowa@purdue.edu) UNITED STATES

Annelie Janred Secretary [annelie.janred@ub.gu.se](mailto:annelie.janred@ub.gu.se) SWEDEN

Beth Ketterman Information Coordinator [kettermane@ecu.edu](mailto:kettermane@ecu.edu) UNITED STATES

#### New Media Section

Jeffrey Knapp Chair [knapp@psu.edu](mailto:knapp@psu.edu) UNITED STATES

Ann Okerson Secretary [aokerson@gmail.com](mailto:aokerson@gmail.com) UNITED STATES

#### Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section

Ted Westervelt Chair [westervelt@gmail.com](mailto:westervelt@gmail.com) UNITED STATES

Andrea Wirth Secretary [andrea.wirth@unlv.edu](mailto:andrea.wirth@unlv.edu) UNITED STATES

Parisa Pasyar Information Coordinator [p.pasyar@gmail.com](mailto:p.pasyar@gmail.com) IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF

#### Social Science Libraries Section

Lindsay Ozburn Chair [lindsay.ozburn@usu.edu](mailto:lindsay.ozburn@usu.edu) UNITED STATES

Ekaterina Shibaeva Information Coordinator [ShibaevaEA@rsl.ru](mailto:ShibaevaEA@rsl.ru) RUSSIAN FEDERATION

### Apologies:

#### Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section

Petra Hauke Secretary [petra.hauke@hu-berlin.de](mailto:petra.hauke@hu-berlin.de) GERMANY

Priscilla Pun Information Coordinator [nipun@um.edu.mo](mailto:nipun@um.edu.mo) CHINA

#### New Media Section

Ana Krahmer Information Coordinator [Ana.Krahmer@unt.edu](mailto:Ana.Krahmer@unt.edu) UNITED STATES

#### Social Science Libraries Section

Jennifer Voutssás Secretary [javoutssas@gmail.com](mailto:javoutssas@gmail.com) MEXICO

## 1. Welcome and confirmation of the agenda

The meeting was opened at 15:00pm CEST. Te Paea welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of Division G, and informed officers that this meeting is being recorded.

*Additional information post meeting - The link to the recording will be provided to professional units. Those officers who were not able to attend the meeting due to time zones' difference will*

*have an opportunity to watch the video and gain a greater appreciation of the meeting content and ideas shared by others at the meeting. The recording will be available for 14 days and after that it will be deleted. The link to the recording will be shared via Basecamp the day after the meeting.*

The following Agenda was confirmed for the meeting:

- Welcome
- Apologies
- Introductions (20min)
  - IFLA strategy and alignment to our sections work - why this is important (7min)
  - Reporting process (2021-23 Action Plan and 2021-2022 Annual Report) (5min)
  - Self-nomination and Election of Division Secretary - this will be an online nomination and voting process (3min)
  - Operational Division meetings - what might these look like, are there any standing agenda items? Should this be held within 8 weeks of the first meeting? What would you like to get from these meetings? (5min)
  - Any other business, Q&A or discussion on a topic of interest to the group (20min)
- Items deferred to Basecamp for further discussion
- Actions
- Meeting close

## **2. Introductions (20min)**

A mini ice breaker session engaged officers one by one to share:

- Their name
- Their country
- The current time in their county
- The one thing they are great at, when working in a team

The Division has a great team with a range of skills, experience and perspectives that bodes well for our shared journey over the next two years. ***A summary of our teams' talent shared at the meeting include:*** Getting results; Editor of a Library and Information Journal, editing in Russian; Team player happy to lead or follow to support the team; Ideation; Sharing information; Listening and leadership; Big picture planning, goal planning and linking these to the institutional mission; Collaboration and interpersonal skills; Attention to detail for accurate notes and actions to avoid confusion; Design thinking; Communication and building rapport; Engagement.

**Action 1:** Each zoom meeting to have an ice breaker question to support 'getting to know each other' until goal achieved or feedback from the group to cease. TP

## **3. IFLA strategy and alignment to our sections work - why this is important (7min)**

Te Paea showed the powerpoint presentation that highlights relevant points from the IFLA strategy and key messages.

Key takeaways: The powerpoint is a useful tool for officers when communicating with their standing committee. Alignment of action plans to the strategy makes it easier to communicate upwards in IFLA and generate commitment and support for our shared endeavours.

Key messages include:

- It's been a journey that has included IFLA members from around the globe to develop the vision and strategy. Understand the history of how we developed the roadmap and the amount of energy and ideas that we gathered from different people around the world. This has landed us where we are today.
- In 2021, we are in the action stage, bringing our strategy to life. All sections and standing committee are so important to our work. With your natural leadership and the contributions of your section members, this strategy takes us through to 2024.
- Vision: a strong, united library field powering literate, informed and participative societies.
- Mission: to inspire, engage, enable and connect the global library field.
- There are four core values and four strategic directions.
- The strategic directions drive what we do and they will feature in some shape or form in your action plans that you will develop with your standing committee.
- To support the strategic directions, there are key initiatives for each strategic direction.
- An example of actions and SMART goals is included in the powerpoint.

**Action 2:** Upload strategy powerpoint to Division G basecamp for officers to access and use as needed. TP

#### **4. Reporting process (2021-23 Action Plan and 2021-2022 Annual Report) (5min)**

Discussed the reporting process and that there are now online forms for action plans and reports. Each Standing committee Chair has received a login and password.

Also pointed out to make use of the Officers Basecamp and that the team is using this well. Megan Price, IFLA HQ is the main IFLA support contact for information and advice.

Action Plans are due 1 November 2021.

**Action 3:** Action plans due 1 November 2021. ALL

#### **5. Self-nomination and Election of Division Secretary - this will be an online nomination and voting process (3min)**

An opportunity is available for Division G officers to self-nominate to be our Division Secretary. In this role you will work closely with the Division Chair and support the Division.

This is a transparent and open process.

#### **KEY DATES:**

- **Self-nominations open now:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6509915/Division-Secretary-Self-Nomination>
- 8 October, noon CEST - Self-nominations close
- 11 October - Elections, as needed, open
- 18 October, noon CEST - Elections close - successful candidates informed shortly after

*Additional information post meeting - Division Chair working style: Te Paea enjoys putting in the effort where it is needed and achieving better successful outcomes for communities. She is empathetic and has a flexible, creative 'can do' working style. She enjoys engaging with people from all walks of life and is pretty cruisy to work with. There is nothing she would ask that she would not do herself. She is a classic 'walk the talk kinda gal'.*

## 6. Division G Meetings – discussion and breakout rooms

Small group discussion held about what officers would like from these meetings. Break out rooms in zoom were used, and a person was nominated to share with the wider group.

List of all themes mentioned:

- Professional support
- Support within IFLA itself
- Cooperation between sections, getting to know each other
- Look for opportunities to cooperate
- Congress planning support
- Where to find information
- Camaraderie
- Reminders of deadlines and help with being accountable
- Establish a collaborative community feel to the Division
- Collaboration within the Division
- Helping establish connections across Divisions
- Use this Division as a place to express interests from the committee, questions and concerns, way to advocate ideas up through the infrastructure
- Giving feedback to the Division Chair about what is working and what is not working
- This is a venue to share information with officers and use the Division as an information exchange
- Opportunity to get to know one another and all the sections within Division G, grow our networks
- Getting the right information; there is a blizzard of emails and it can be hard to know which of the snowflakes in the blizzard that are the important ones; sort and put to the side. Identify what is really critical.
- What is happening in other sections, successes, questions etc
- Getting the most out of basecamp, learn from each other in how it can be used, its strengths and limitations, to figure out how to do that well and to share
- Space to share questions that are asked of officers from their standing committees

**Action 4:** Focus on Division G and branch out from there. ALL

## 7. Open forum

Questions:

- Ekaterina – Have received a previous Annual Report. It is in an old format. Do we upload this as it is or do we transfer the content into the new format?
- Ann – Probably too soon but is there anything you can share with us, with respect the WLIC meeting for next summer? It is in person or hybrid, dates etc.
- Ekaterina – Call for papers dates and information for WLIC?
- Andrea – Questions about Congress and presentations, concerns about whether the people that presented for us could have the option to write papers in the way that they have been able to in the past. There has been no communication about this?
- Andrea – Hoping the presentations can be shared much more widely, once the proprietary period is up. Need to have open access as content has currency now not in 12 month's time.
- Ann (added to Andrea's comment) - I think there's been a lot of concern, and you know we all understand why all of these papers are embargoed for a year. I honestly don't think very many people are going to make a note if they didn't register for the conference to come back in a year's time and listen to something; the moment will have passed. I think that is unfortunately a lost opportunity. I'm sure IFLA appreciates the revenue, and I think it's now 50 euros, if you want to join in retrospect. I have a whole pile of audio things queued up to listen to and I don't know when I'm

going to get to them and that's even before anything to do with IFLA. I think this policy has its pros, but it really has its downsides.

- Andres – Captioning for session did not work very well, can this be fixed?
- Bethany – How often will we communicate with other Divisions? What if there overlap or duplication in sessions from other Divisions, how does that work? Reciprocal sharing of what is going on?
- Ann – WLIC website/app navigation yields poor search results or does not work. It was something to do with Delegate Connect. Very unreliable so it needs attention to improve the experience for searching and user friendliness.

**Action 5:** Follow up to find information and report back to Division. TP

**Meeting closed at 15:53 CEST**

Date	Actions from Meeting to Complete	Action by	Who	Done
22/9/21	Each zoom meeting to have an ice breaker question to support 'getting to know each other' until goal achieved or feedback from the group to cease.	Next meeting	Te Paea	
22/9/21	Upload strategy powerpoint to Division G basecamp for officers to access and use as needed.	ASAP	Te Paea	Done
22/9/21	Action plans due	1/11/21	All	
22/9/21	Focus on Division G to understand what we do and how we work, then branch out from there to other Divisions.	1/12/21	All	
22/9/21	Open Forum questions follow up to find information and report back to Division.	30/10/21	Te Paea	

## **Objective 2: Lead the IFLA Professional Units Governance Review**

The Steering Committee and Parliamentarian continue their work on pulling together the Rules of Procedure and the Statutes into clear documents for use by members and volunteers.

Further decisions will be made regarding the Regional structure and Regional Council details, which are currently being discussed.

An expanded working group will meet to finalise decisions to be sent to the Governing Board at the end of January 2021.

In February there is an extraordinary General Assembly planned, to be held on 12 February 2021 in Melbourne, Australia. This meeting will have just one main agenda point, but it is an important one – a vote on IFLA's new Statutes.

As the Secretary General says "This is a key milestone in our Governance Review, which aims to make IFLA a more inclusive, effective and transparency organisation, and in doing so, give us the structures and tools to deliver on the ambition of our Strategy. Now, as throughout the process, your voice and your input is vital."

## **Elections and nominations**

After the Extraordinary General Assembly the nominations and elections of 2021 will begin. Further information will be given. (See the announcement [here](#))

Please continue your work on ensuring that your units continue to be as global as possible, with representations from all parts of the world.

## **Objective 4 - Develop the congress as a professional experience and international forum and participate in the review of the congress**

### **2021 WLIC**

Progress made by the Conference Working Group on the virtual conference was presented.

A survey was sent out in October.

- professional units,
- IFLA members
- past attendees
- IFLA industry partners.

The results of the surveys and the extensive comments helped us understand the needs and expectations of those different groups. You can view the summary results on the [IFLA website](#).

IFLA's WLIC 2021 Working Group has been combing through the results of the surveys and exploring the issues linked to holding a truly global conference. These include

- international and regional perspective,
- professional contributions,
- financial sustainability,
- and our relationships with industry partners.

With this in mind, we are moving into the Development phase over the coming two months. The process will now be led by the Governing Board's Conference Advisory Committee.

The following information has been sent out to all officers before and Catharina mentioned this again:

- WLIC 2021 will not be a duplication of the past physical conference. IFLA will take the opportunity of a virtual environment to experiment with different timings, formats of sessions and opportunities for engagement.
- The conference will revolve around a curated core programme with an emphasis on quality and alignment with the theme and the sub-themes.
- The design of the core programme will incorporate the desire of survey respondents for shorter, more interactive sessions and formats.
- Professional Units will be invited to contribute ideas for the conference programme and we will explore other opportunities to showcase their work in varied formats.
- There will be no Satellite Meetings in 2021.
- The first business meeting of all committees that would normally be scheduled at the conference should take place in the first two weeks of August.
- The second business meeting of all committees should be held within two weeks of the end of WLIC.
- More information on the business meetings, the induction of new committee members and the transition/handover to a new committee will be provided in 2021.
- The preferred dates for WLIC are in the last two weeks of August 2021 but exact dates are yet to be confirmed.

### Looking forward

The PC work will concentrate on the finalisation of the Governance Review pertaining to the Professional Council and the Professional Units and on the Rules of Procedure.

The Professional Committee will also provide advice and support to the CAC (Congress Advisory Committee) as needed during the upcoming WLIC Development phase.

Catharina is a member of both the PC and the CAC.

After Catharina's report there were a couple of questions from the units:

- Krystyna told that a lot of effort was put to prepare a satellite conference in LTR. So she questioned that in 2021 there won't be the satellite conferences. LTR reviewed proposals and has been waiting for a satellite conference. The section worked hard on it and once it already canceled a satellite conference due to the pandemics in 2020. So what should they do now? Catharina and Krystyna continues this discussion with Headquarter.
- A question in the chat was about nominations – the answer can be found [here](#).

### 8. Inspirational presentation

#### ✓ by Ulrike Lang, CPDWL

Ulrike Lang did a short presentation on the [CPDWL "meet up" series](#), which was held last October. The idea to organize it arose early September at the SC meeting.

The purpose of the CPDWL “Get To Know You” Meet Ups is to help the standing committee members to get to know more about each. CPDWL has 33 standing committee members, corresponding members, and consultants. SC members were asked to act as organizers and moderators. There were 6 meet ups with 5 people in each group. Topics included but were not limited to: business background, private life, hobbies, involvement in CPDWL activities etc. Groups met in different time depending on their time zones and on various days. Each meet up lasted no more than 30 minutes.

Participants could freely choose a meeting with a topic and different time, a host they wanted to meet the most. Meet ups were opened for listeners who could either talk about themselves or stay quiet. All meet ups were recorded. So everyone was able to listen the recordings later and learn more about other participants.

Meet ups started with 2 minutes to introduce himself. Then the host asked questions all of the speakers and would invite one by one to speak. Speakers could ask questions as well. Some meet ups lasted more than 30 min., some were up to an hour. In introduction the host asked for some information as name, role and aim in CPDWL, length of time they were involved, what functions they had in CPDWL, what they liked and did not like, what they would like to do; if they have families, pets. There were questions like how you became a part of IFLA, who gave you support for this, what is your favourite part in WLIC or involvement in IFLA; any favourite – food, books, activity etc.

CPDWL is going to continue the meet ups further. A big difference between meeting and know each other face-to-face and virtually. So CPDWL is going to work on how to improve this project and meet more.

One of results was a new section in the newsletter – “And now for something completely different” which includes reports of CPDWL members about the media watched worldwide, the favourite read of the last month, the most important projects that were successful or not been successful, the recipe to make my staff more happy which could be a hint how to organize a daily work but it could also be the favourite cake you offered in the end of the year, for example.

Ulrike looked forward to seeing the July Newsletter if there will be these reports and how many there would be.

Also, CPDWL changed a little bit the way the section works. It had a What’s App club where CPDWL colleagues send to each other season’s greeting, cartoons, or share something that is not serious, so that’s not a part of the business meeting but gives touch of private life of the section members, consultants, and corresponding members.

Also WeChat Group for those who can’t use What’s App.

Ray Pan created a meme contest that was a lot of fun for those who participated.

Also, Ray asked CPDWL to choose some favorite music to create a playlist. 19 colleagues participated to out a diverse playlist from different continents.

Catharina highly appreciated CPDWL’s report and mentioned that: “It is a showcase of news ways of doing business”.

Jeremiah thanked Ulrike and Ray for sharing CPDWL’s experience.

✓ **by Magdalena Gomułka, NPSIG**

The internal work and importance of collaboration in the webinar series “New Librarians-Global Connection: Best Practices, Models and Recommendations”.

She stressed on how to improve a unit’s work.

Since 2012 NP SIG presents free webinars titled as “New Librarians Global Connection: best practices, models and recommendations” in cooperation with IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning and ALA.

How to organize it in an effective way?



- To create a group of those who are interested in organizing a webinar
- To find a topic
- Once a year – a survey – topics from libraries

Magda demonstrated how to use [Trello Program](#) for organizing webinars.

Hella asked where any interested in NPSIG activity can find news about a unit.

Magda told that NPSIG uses blog and social media mostly. Also, using Trello in organizing events helps not to lose any valuable information.

## **9. Exchange of ideas and experience, All units prepare:**

- How do your unit keep everyone within the standing committee engaged in the work?
- How are you working in new ways when all of the meetings and work is virtual?
- What has worked and what didn't work? Give an example on a successful initiative and also an unsuccessful initiative from which we can learn.

### **a. by Management of Library Associations**

Hella agreed with previous speakers that there have been always people who were very active and people who stay quite. MLAS has been regular Zoom meetings each month. MLAS copied experience from the Division IV Chair to ask members to prepare on questions.

MLAS is going to launch a webinar series soon – there will be different topics. The first webinar is on “Library Map of the World.” The presenters of the second webinar will be three candidates for nomination Presidents-Elect.

To organize different events MLAS creates groups to coordinate them.

### **b. by Management & Marketing**

Anya thanked speakers for sharing their experience and told that there are a lot of new things and technologies she got to know. And she said that for sure M&M will introduce them into the section's work.

Jeremiah liked an idea with Trello. It is always a challenge to find a platform that can be used by all members. M&M was going to launch a call for submissions for the IFLA PressReader International Marketing Award.

### **c. by Library History SIG**

Kerry Smith told that the first challenge was to organize a zoom session with SIG's members. What really helped was a lesson from IFLA on how to use Zoom. A unit has a very large project – Oral History of IFLA's past presidents, secretaries general and IFLA's personalities. This project will be a contribution into celebrating 100 years of IFLA in 2027. There are a lot of gaps in the history of library professionals. Another direction is to gather data on libraries that have oral history projects. The idea is to colour a map and show if these countries have oral histories.

### **d. Statistics and evaluation**

Bella thanked colleagues from other section for sharing their experience.

A section has meeting each month. It follows the Action Plan. Getting everyone to follow a schedule is a problem but there is an excuse because everyone is busy, especially over the last months.

Bella and Mary-Jo told about a project for IFLA to evaluate and get statistics on return on investments for libraries.

#### **e. by Education and Training**

Albina thanked all presenters, especially Ulrike, Jeremiah, Loida and Magda for experience and ideas they shared. It gave more ideas on activities for SET.

SET has taken on numerous activities this year, even beyond those that were listed in the Action Plan. For example, it has taken on a webinar series that has been very well-attended thus far. In this, and other projects, there have been ongoing and frequent communications with selected SET members as well as the Section as a whole.

In January 2021 SET is going to launch two projects. Though the main target is LIS students, these projects also aimed at engaging SC members:

- “#ProfessionalAdvice – LIS Professionals to LIS Students” - it is a mini-project for social media to promote SET. We ask LIS professionals for advice for LIS students. It's up to 3 sentences.
- “Books to read to become LIS professional” (a working title) - SET members recommend top 5 professional books to LIS students; after that we can ask members from other units to recommend books.

There are several project teams (3-4 people) working on initiatives.

SET started to plan the Division IV Project Webinar series for LIS students. Several Division IV officers were willing to participate – Loida from MLAS and Magda from NPSIG. Albina reminded that SET and involved units would be happy if any other sections join the project.

#### **f. Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section**

Gillian added that CPDWL has a lot of small projects. It is not a right time to have big projects. CPDWL is waiting for a new version of IFLA's website that will help in communication. The section uses lots of different social media channels. A challenge for some members is no Internet connection during the pandemic time.

#### **g. New Professional SIG**

Magda shared NPSIG's experience on how to engage people and to get better each other, especially those who are not active. NPSIG organized a discussion in Zoom on “What are we doing at work?” There have been some virtual tours in the libraries, discussing hobbies etc. Another event was reading a book aloud in MLAS meeting.

## **10. End of meeting**

The Chair said that all experience is very impressive. Next meeting will be in April or May. Catharina wished to everyone to take care and stay healthy. Enormous thanks to all units.