



**IFLA Section
Education and Training**

Minutes of the Education and Training Section (SET)
Business Meeting
Teleconference (Zoom), 21 June, 2024

Attendance:

Albina Krymskaya Chair RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Dinesh Kumar Gupta INDIA
Vivian Lewis CANADA
Premila Gamage SRI LANKA
Marina Encheva BULGARIA
Sandy Hirsh USA
Ji Jiuming CHINA
Mary Grace Golfo-Barcelona PHILIPINES,
Wachiraporn Klungthanaboon THAILAND
Naoki Matsumoto JAPAN
Jasenska Plesko
Jaya Raju SOUTH AFRICA
Sophia Adeyeye NIGER
Jasenska Plesko CROATIA
Susanne List-Tretthahn AUSTRIA

Guests:

Karin Byström (Chair, Division C), Kendra Albright (Knowledge Management Section), Priscilla Pun (IFLA ENSULIB) were welcomed to the meeting as guests.

Regrets:

Regrets were received from: Elisabeth Noel (FRANCE), Nicole Filbrandt (GERMANY), Ling Li (CHINA), Laura Saunders (USA,) Anna Maria Tammara (ITALY), Diane Pennington (UNITED KINGDOM), Ina Yuryk (BELARUS).

- 1. Welcome** – The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM (CET). Special welcome was extended to members from other sections and SIGs.

- 2. Greetings from IFLA Division C (Karin Byström, Chair, Division C).** Ms. Byström is a Librarian specializing in collections and digitization at Uppsala University Library in Sweden.

Division C is comprised of four sections (Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning; Education and Training; Library Theory and Research; and Management of Library Associations) and two Special Interest Groups (the LIS Education in Developing Countries Special Interest Group and the New Professionals Interest Group).

Since assuming the Chair of Division C. last year, Karin has been focused on governance and workflows.

She described some of the subcommittees currently associated with Professional Division C:

- Subgroup focused on reviews of the Special Interest Groups.
- Subgroup preparing for reviews of the Sections next year.
- Subgroup focused on making adjustments to the INFINITY system for reporting action plans.
- Subgroup identifying strategies for improving data management across the Division (e.g., use of generic email accounts).
- Subgroup looking at what is needed in years when IFLA isn't running a World Congress.

Karin commits time to supporting other IFLA projects, e.g., the IFLA Strategy.

Karin answered many questions from the Section:

- Location of next World Congress? The Governing Board will be making a decision about the location of the next World Congress.
- How does she balance her heavy work load? Ms. Byström benefits from a very supportive employer in balancing IFLA responsibilities with her job.
- Can you describe the kind of Data Management activities being discussed by the Division C Council? Includes how information gathered by one Section Chair is carried over to the next Chair.

- 3. Update on the IFLA Division C Meeting (Vivian Lewis).**

Vivian provided a brief update on the May 22, 2024 meeting of Division C. The meeting outlined plans for the SIG and Section reviews. SIG reviews will result in a recommendation to close or continue a SIG OR to convert it into a Section.

The proposed new IFLA Strategy was discussed. We were advised that the new plan will be more impact focused. Updates were provided from MLAS, CPDWL, LTR and SET activities. Participants were encouraged to participate in the IFLA Digital Skills Competency training being delivered by IFLA HQ.

- 4. LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG (Albina Krymskaya)**

Albina thanked everyone who had provided feedback into the LIS Education in Development Countries SIG document. The SIG had recommended that IFLA create an official unit (with one paid position) that would be responsible for supporting their work. SET had some concern that

the addition of a paid position would not be financially feasible. Instead, we proposed that the SIG continue for the next three years, at which time another review would be done.

The group discussed the benefits of having the SIG reach out to the Regional Divisions to amplify their work .

5. Update on the Book Project “*Library and Information Science Education around the World: Historical Trends, Current Perspectives and Future Projections*” (Albina Krymskaya)

Albina Krymskaya noted that the team, which includes Sandy Hirsh (USA) and Jaya Raju (South Africa) submitted the final book proposal to the IFLA Professional Council last week.

Sandy and Jaya described how hard the team is working to comply with approved policies and documentation for publishing through IFLA. They conducted a useful survey to solicit ideas for the book (and received over 100 responses). They have collected the names of people they will invite to submit chapter proposals. They are currently updating the project timeline. The actual invitation will go out in September.

The book will include chapters (approximately 2,500 – 3,000 words each) written by recognized experts in the field from across the world. Authors will be invited to contribute to ensure a diversity of voices.

Priscilla Pun is just finalizing a book project in her section. She asked the project leads whether they were assigning topics to authors as they were sending out the invitation. (Answer: Yes, are identifying potential areas.)

6. UPDATE on BSLISE Working Group Projects (Jaya Raju)

Jaya updated the Section on behalf of herself and Clara M. Chu (BSLISE Co-Chairs). Excellent progress has been made on a) implementation of the SET Guidelines; the LIS School map and database; and the LIS Schools with International higher education ranking systems.

Jaya’s report noted six conference presentations (ALISE, AFLI, University of North Carolina, etc.). She also described the value of delivering workshops, but noted that creating resource guides was often more practical. She also identified five publications (SET Bulletin, IFLA Journal, IRRT Newsletter, etc.

The IFLA SET Guidelines have now been published in 8 languages. They are currently looking for someone who can translate into Italian. FAQ’s have also been translated into multiple languages.

7. UPDATE on Knowledge Management Collaboration (Kendra Albright)

Kendra Albright updated the Section on the Knowledge Management collaboration. She acknowledged that the team modelled some of their approaches after those of BSLISE. The project started in the

Hague a few years ago when Kendra and colleagues began talking about cross-divisional research. The conversation triggered Kendra's interest in understanding how we prepare new KM professionals AND how we support existing staff interested in the work.

Kendra, Albina and Frank Cervone edited a special issue on global KM which should be published in November 2024. They held a satellite meeting in Rotterdam to build upon this work. A call was put out for other individuals interested in participating in the work. They held a meeting last week with 10 participants from 10 countries.

Kendra noted that the concept of Library & Information Science (LIS) is hard enough to understand and the concept of Knowledge Management is even harder. The understanding of KM varies from country to country. Some people seem to believe that KM is diminishing in importance – even though the number of jobs is increasing. To counter this problem, they decided to start by interviewing people and asking them what KM meant to them? They hope to eventually issue a global survey with more clarity.

8. Project Teams (Vivian Lewis)

Vivian thanked all members who responded to the survey indicating what SET projects they are currently working on and what projects they would be interested in being involved in in the future. Given that some people identified several interest areas, Vivian will send out the responses. Individuals will be given one week to a) add their names to one or more projects; b) identify their preferences if they identified a large number of areas.

9. Other Business

- a. **Mini Conference (Albina Krymskaya).** The team would like to host a mini conference focusing on key trends in LIS education in November. The event would be held on ZOOM over a one or two-day period. Susanne, Premila, Mary Grace, Vivian, Albina, Marina all expressed interest.
- b. **Webinar for LIS students**
Albina will send an email and suggest topics. Already one topic for November on soft skills (Kendra). Suzanne will help again.

10. Adjournment: The Chair closed the meeting at 5:33 PM (CET).