



Attendance:

Lan Gao, USA
Andrew Finegan, AUSTRALIA
Eleonore Clavreul, FRANCE
Waleed Al Badi, OMAN
Theresa Byrd, USA
Xi Chen, USA
Fatou Diop, SENEGAL
Miyuki Hamaguchi, JAPAN
Suela Jorgaqi, SWITZERLAND
Leslie Kuo , GERMANY
Lilian Letshabo, BOTSWANA
Peggy Nzomo, USA
Natalie Rector, THAILAND
Emily Reed, USA
Elisabet Rundqvist, SWEDEN
Leili Seifi, IRAN
Virginia Svediene, LITHUANIA
Jiangshun Zhang, CHINA

Mentors

Fred Gitner
Yasuko Hirata

Apologies

Anne Barnhart
Anita Basak
Carmela Ieracitano
Elisabeth Marrow
Sebastian Tarazona

1. Welcome and Greetings

Each member introduced themselves and talked about what they've been up to.

2. Approval of the 2022 Section Annual Business Meeting minutes

Moved: Theresa, Seconded: Leslie

3. 2023 IFLA WLIC

- **Satellite Meeting**

- Everything is currently in motion. Title “Empowering diverse librarianship”. This was the theme from 2020 Satellite Meeting, which we haven’t had the opportunity to have until this year on 18 August 2023. We are hoping to attract around 60 attendees in total.
- If you have a story to share, Theresa is interested in including an international perspective to include in her presentation, so please reach out to her if you have a story to share, related to diversity / discrimination / micro aggression issues at work.
- Leili: Will this program be hybrid, so that others can connect online who cannot attend?
- Peggy: How can people register? Lan: The session is currently listed on WLIC website, and registration will start around May/June. What do people think about how we promote the event?
- Concerns that it might fill up and people who were interested in coming might miss out.
- Numbers are down and there are many satellite events - more than twenty, so it might actually be hard to attract attendees. Actually better to open registration early, so that people can put in their application from work to get permission to travel. We could also attract local European delegates who aren’t attending WLIC.
- What will the registration cost be? It will be free. This means that there’s the risk that people will register but not show up.
- Lilian: Can I be in a section committee, but present at another section event? Yes, of course! We encourage collaboration.

- **WLIC Open Session**

- Theme is “Why bother?” Promoting and protecting national minority languages and libraries.
- Can be done in several ways - looking at having as a ‘provocation’, like a question with an open answer, or having an open forum. The plan is to start the open session with some short videos of people talking about the importance of keeping languages and how libraries can help.
- Great topic - would be good to raise awareness of instances and case studies where minority languages are suppressed in different societies, and how libraries can help. Or show positive examples of where libraries have supported minority languages - or both! It would be good to have some opening remarks to have some historical context - these issues are not new - have been ongoing.
- Could we have some kind of ‘safe space’ agreement for attendees, so that if people express their opinion, it doesn’t leave the room / not tweeted, etc. Definitely something that we’ll consider.
- If you have more suggestions, please email Elisabet and Sebastian. Or if you know somebody who might be interested in talking or making a video, please share their names so that they can get in contact with them.

4. Announcements and reports

- a. Chair’s report**
- b. Secretary’s report**
- c. Information Coordinator’s report**

5. Nomination and Election Updates

- We have more candidates than places, so we will be going to elections in March, and will have results in May. Once new members join us, we will have a meeting for new members in the second half of May. After that, we will have officer election. Officers can self-nominate in June. We will be looking for a chair, secretary and information coordinator.
- Reminder - to serve on a committee, you need to wait at least a full term after completing your two terms, before you can run again for the same committee.

6. Action Plan Progress Review

7. Newsletter Theme Discussion

- Action: Use the WLIC session theme of Promoting and Protecting minority languages for the upcoming newsletter.

8. Round table sharing

- Committee members took turns to talk about the work that they've currently been doing in delivering library services to support multicultural communities.

9. Any Other Business

Chair's Report

2023 Midyear Meeting

MCULTP 2021-2023 Action Plan 2023 Mid-term Update was submitted to Division A Chair. It was approved in March, 2023. During the Division A meetings I attended, updates and highlights of our unit were shared with attendees.

Our Dec 2022 issue of MCULTP Newsletter was published in December last year. We received a lot of great submissions for this issue. Special thanks to our Secretary Andrew Finegan and Information Coordinator Eleonore Clavreul for editing, publishing and promoting this newsletter. Also, I would like to give my thanks to all the contributors.

Seven new members and two new mentors joined us last year. I believe these additions will strengthen our unit's regional diversity as well as enhance our collected expertise to advocate for multiculturalism in the library field.

I would like to thank our Standing Committee members and colleagues for your continued support and dedication to our Section.

Lan Gao

Chair

IFLA Section 32

Library Services to Multicultural Populations

Secretary's Report

Following last year's WLIC in Dublin, our Section put out a call to fill vacancies in the Standing Committee and co-opt members from underrepresented geographic regions. Following a nomination and election process, we were happy to welcome seven new members to the standing committee. We also welcome past Section members Fred Gitner and Yasuko Hirata who join us officially as mentors to the committee.

In November 2022, we called for articles for our December newsletter, this time with an open theme. We had an overwhelming response from around the world, with a total of sixteen articles plus profiles on all of our new committee members. We will be calling for articles for our June newsletters next month.

It is a busy time for the Section, as we prepare for the upcoming WLIC in Rotterdam this year, and I look forward to hearing more about the coming plans.

Andrew Finegan

IFLA MCULTP Secretary

IFLA Section 32 - 2023 Midyear Meeting

Information Coordinator's report: Eléonore Clavreul

Social Media statistics as of march 21th 2023 have shown a regular but quite slow increase in followers

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ifla.mcultp>): From 3289 to 3363 followers – gained only 74 followers in 9 months

Twitter (http://twitter.com/ifla_mcultp/): From 1953 to 1960 followers – gained 7 followers in 9 months

Instagram (http://instagram.com/multicultural_libraries/): From 888 to 937 followers – gained 49 followers in 9 months

This half-hearted assessment is partly my fault, as I sometimes let too much time pass between two publications. However, I have also made calls to the group for information to be relayed, without response. It would be very useful for more regular publications if members who have declared their interest in social networks would send me information more regularly. I am aware that it is not so easy to find the time for this, but, as you know, a page that is not very well fed, loses visibility.

Social media posts touched upon:

- Portraits of new members
- The MCULT's newsletter
- And other news items of interest to members.

Thank you.