

Minutes for Standing Committee, Library Theory and Research Section Meetings 2008 Quebec City, Canada

I. Saturday 16 August 2008

Present: Ragnar Audunson – chair; Marydee Ojala – Secretary/Treasurer; Marian Koren – Information Officer; Helen Partridge; Ann Curry; Lynn Silipigni Connaway; Michael Seadle; Terry Weech

Observers: Xiaolin Zhang (representing Jingli Chu); Catherine Closet-Ciene; Ahmed Ksibi
Apologies: Biddy Fisher

1. The Chair, Ragnar Audunson, welcomed all to the first Standing Committee meeting of Library Theory and Research Section at the IFLA Quebec conference. The agenda as set in the LTR Newsletter July 2008 was adopted.
2. The Minutes of the SC meetings in Durban on the 18th and 24th of August 2008 were accepted.
3. Ragnar reported on the Coordinating Board VII meeting held on the 15th of August. In addition to a review of Sections' programming during the Quebec conference and plans for future conferences, information regarding the IFLA restructuring was presented. Division VII will become Division IV. There will be some reshuffling of membership to reflect the change from eight Divisions to four.
4. The LTR session in Quebec, titled "Libraries as Place and Space: Theoretical Approaches," is scheduled for Monday from 13.45 to 15.45. We had a huge response to our call for papers. We accepted eight, but only seven presenters are in Quebec. Most of the papers are available in full text on the IFLA website. LTR is also co-sponsoring, with Management & Marketing and Statistics & Evaluation, a session on Tuesday morning titled "Managing Libraries in a Changing Environment."
5. The Strategic Plan for 2007-2008 was completed and is on the IFLA website.
6. Communication: Marian Koren was commended for producing the LTR Newsletter efficiently and with high quality. We should look at possibilities for including young researchers in the newsletter and investigate incorporating interactive technologies, such as video, into the newsletter, since it is distributed electronically. There seem to be some technical issues with the LTR listserv. Marian Koren will investigate.
7. Financial report: Thus far, no monies have been spent. Before the end of the year, however, we may allocate administrative funds for promoting the student competition.
8. Ragnar's project on professional norms is slightly delayed. A contribution from Africa won't be ready until later this year. Ann Curry and Terry Weech are working on a chapter about the US and Canada, which should be ready by November. All other chapters are completed.

New projects on research agendas could turn into a publication. The issues of library research agendas and government priorities are very important and worth investigating.

9. Future conferences: The LTR theme for the Milan conference is Open Access. We will have a student competition. We will also issue a standard call for papers. We want to focus on research into open access, both theoretical and empirical, not on research published as open access or on opinions about open access. Research on open access could include copyright, financial management, preservation, legal aspects, social conventions, cultural aspects, and policy issues. The student competition and the call for papers will be managed by Helen Partridge.

II Friday, 24 August 2008 Quebec City, Canada

Present: Marydee Ojala – Secretary/Treasurer; Marian Koren – Information Officer; Ann Curry; Helen Partridge; Michael Seadle; Terry Weech; Lynn Silipigni Connaway; Eileen Breen
Apologies: Ragnar Audunson
Observers: Elke Greifeneder, Petra Hauka, Kerry Smith

1. In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was opened by the Secretary/Treasurer, Marydee Ojala.

2. Review of LTR sessions in Quebec: The LTR session on "Theoretical approaches to research on libraries as space and place" was extremely successful, filling the room with almost 500 people in attendance. The Committee thanked Eileen Breen for creating a leaflet promoting the session and recommended doing something similar for the 2009 conference. The paper by Trudi Bellardo Hahn and Heather Jackson on "The library as sacred place" was designated as the best paper.

The session on "Managing libraries in a changing environment," co-sponsored by LTR with Management and Marketing and Statistics and Evaluation sections was also a success, attracting several hundred people.

3. Communication: Some members have not been receiving messages sent via the discussion list. Marian Koren will follow up with the membership office to resolve this problem. Terry Weech will check that contact information for SC members is correct and will send an updated list to Marydee Ojala.

4. Financial: Ragnar Audunson confirmed with Sjoerd Koopman that we can use some of the allotted SC moneys to fund student travel to Milan.

5. Projects: Kerry Smith will follow up on Bob Usherwood's project. All the data was submitted to Bob, but to date the final report has not been written.

Terry Weech and Ann Curry will be responsible for the U.S. and Canadian portions of Ragnar Audunson's professional norms project. They will look at the principal actors in the various associations in their respective countries to identify activities that line up with the IFLA pillars, but will not do surveys. Their contributions are scheduled to be finished by November. Project money will be spent on this.

A new project concerning research on mentoring for new professionals was proposed by Terry Weech, Helen Partridge and Lynn Silipigni Connaway.

Ann Curry's project on policy will be on the programme in Brisbane.

6. Milan 2009 conference: LTR will have a satellite event preceding the Milan conference. The co-sponsors will be Public libraries, Library buildings and equipment, Management and marketing, and Academic and research libraries. The venue will be Turin and the topic will be "Libraries as Space and Place".

For the 2-hour session in Milan, the topic will be Open Access. Helen Partridge will write the call for papers and chair the review committee. Students will be invited to submit papers, with the understanding that if their paper is accepted, they must attend the conference and present it.

7. Brisbane 2010 conference: The topic for the LTR session will be on the research agenda for library and information science. This is a policy issue, so input from government officials will be solicited. If LTR partners with another section, it could have a 4-hour block of time.

8. San Juan 2011 conference: Tentatively, LTR will look at a session extending the idea of national research agendas for LIS.

9. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 13.00.

Respectfully submitted,
Marydee Ojala. Secretary/Treasurer, LTR