



MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS SECTION

Annual Report

January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Scope Statement

Within IFLA, the Section on Management of Library Associations advocates for the interests, aspirations and concerns of the library associations that are represented among IFLA members. There is a continuum of resources available to library associations: some have paid staff and others are run by volunteers, both possessing a wide range of experience and expertise. The Section addresses the needs and promotes interests of all types and sizes of library associations and brings together staff and elected leaders and representatives of these associations to:

- foster and improve leadership skills;
- share experiences;
- develop useful publications and to offer workshops, seminars and programmes that address their needs and interests;
- support IFLA's Core Programmes;
- advocate within IFLA for the promotion and development of effective library and library association practices worldwide.

Library associations provide many valuable services to librarians. They work to develop effective library programs and services that meet the needs of library users and advance societal objectives and interests, ensuring public access to information, and preserving and protecting cultural resources.

The Section will promote the mission of library associations in setting and maintaining standards for the provision of library services in all types of libraries, encouraging the professional development of librarians through effective training and education programmes that promote lifelong learning. The MLAS is the meeting place of all library associations and welcomes the participation of all library associations, both IFLA and non-IFLA members.

Membership

As of the end of this reporting year, the Management of Library Associations Section has 156 members. The membership consists of international (17), national (137) and other (2) library associations that are members of IFLA. At the beginning of this reporting year, the MLAS Executive Committee had 21 elected members representing individual library associations. In August 2004, Christina Stenberg, the MLAS Chair resigned, bringing the total to 20. The extra member was due to a tie for the 20th place in the 2003 elections. With the resignation of Christina Stenberg, we are at the correct number of members, so no replacement was necessary.

Of the 20 members of the Standing Committee, 10 members are serving their first term and are eligible for reelection in 2007. The other 10 members are serving their second term and are not eligible for reelection.

Members serving their first term from 2003-2007 and eligible for reelection are:

Edita Bacic, Croatian Library Assoc.
Keith Michael Fiels, American Library Assoc.
Britt-Marie Håggström, Documentation Info. Culture, Sweden
Jill Martin, Chartered Institute of Libraries and Info. Professionals, UK
Alicia Ocaso, Asociación de Bibliotecólogos del Uruguay,
Andrea Paoli, Italian Library Assoc.
Tuula Ruhanen, Finnish Research Library Assoc.
Henriette Seydou, L=Assoc. Nigérienne des Bibliothécaires de la Lecture Publique
Sinikka Sipila, Finnish Library Assoc.
Gwenda Thomas, Library and Information Assoc. of South Africa

Members serving their second term 2003-2007 and not eligible for reelection are:

Norma Amenu-Kpodo, Commonwealth Library Assoc., Jamaica
Gerard Briand, Assoc. des Bibliothécaires Français
Arlene Cohen, Pacific Islands Assoc. of Libraries and Archives
Carla Funk, Medical Library Assoc., USA
Boris Marshak, ELNIT Assoc., Russia
Jennefer Nicholson, Australian Library and Info. Assoc.
Jan Ewaut van der Putten, Dutch National Assoc. of Public Libraries
Sabine Stummeyer, Berufsverband Info. Bibliothek e.V., Germany
Duane Webster, Assoc. of Research Libraries, USA
Winnie Vitzansky, Danish Library Assoc.

Officers

Interim Chair: Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611 U.S.A. Phone: 1-312-280-1392 or 1-800-545-2433 Ext. 1392; FAX: 1-312-944-3897; E-mail: kfiels@ala.org. The Chair was elected at the 3rd MLAS Standing Committee meeting on August 28, 2004 to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of

Christina Stenberg, the previous Chair. His election is for the remainder of the two-year term.

Secretary: Arlene Cohen, Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives, University of Guam, RFK Library UOG Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923, USA. Phone: 1-671-735-2345; FAX: 1-671-734-6882; E-mail <acohen@uog9.uog.edu>. The Secretary was re-elected at the 1st MLAS Standing Committee meeting on August 2, 2003.

Treasurer: Carla Funk, Executive Director, Medical Library Association, Inc., 65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1900, Chicago, Illinois 60601, USA. Phone: 1-312-419-9094; FAX: 1-312-419-8950; E-mail <funk@mlahq.org>. Carla Funk agreed to stay as Treasurer at the 1st MLAS Standing Committee meeting on August 2, 2003.

Information Coordinator: Jennefer Nicholson, Executive Director, Australian Library and Information Association, P.O. Box E441, Kingston 2604 AUSTRALIA. Phone: 61-2-6285-1877; FAX: 61-2-6282-2249; E-mail <jennefer.nicholson@alia.org.au>. The Information Coordinator was reappointed at the 1st MLAS Standing Committee meeting on August 2, 2003.

All officers in the Standing Committee are serving their second term, ending in August 2005.

Meetings

There were two meetings held this year. One was the 2nd MLAS Standing Committee meeting held in Rome, Italy, February 19 - February 21, 2004 with 16 Standing Committee members and 5 observers present. The other was the 3rd MLAS Standing Committee meeting held August 22 and August 28, 2004 in Buenos Aires, Argentina during the IFLA Conference. There were 18 Standing Committee members and 23 observers present for the first session. The second session had 12 Standing Committee members and 8 observers present.

Projects

1. IFLA Dues Restructuring

During this past year, the MLAS made significant contributions to IFLA=s dues restructuring efforts. In August 2003, IFLA Headquarters asked the MLAS Standing Committee to appoint representatives to serve on the National Association Membership Fees Working Group (Working Group). The IFLA MLAS Standing Committee recommended Christina Stenberg, Duane Webster, Jan-Ewout van der Putten, Norma Amenu-Kpodo, Alicia Ocaso and Gwenda Thomas as members and they initially met on December 1-2, 2003 in The Hague at IFLA Headquarters. At that meeting, they worked with Ross Shimmon, IFLA Secretary General, Ingrid Parent, IFLA Treasurer and Kelly Moore, IFLA Membership Manager and developed a methodology to begin looking at restructuring dues based on association expenses.

At the February 2005 MLAS mid-year meeting in Rome, the MLAS Standing Committee deliberated on a restructuring proposal presented by the Working Group and suggested modifications. The Working Group met again on March 16, 2004, and incorporating input from the MLAS Standing Committee, finalized a proposal. This proposal subsequently passed through

the Governing Board and appeared on the April 2004 postal ballot. Of the ballots received back, 93 % voted to revise the provisions for Association membership of IFLA, which included the new fee structure.

Along with the new fee structure, a proposal for a new category of association membership was offered and 92.8 % voted for the proposed new article. The article states A7.2.3 Other Association Members: Associations of librarians and information professionals whose purposes are in accordance with those of the Federation whose geographical remit is less than that of an independent state (for example, provincial or state associations) may be admitted as Association members in this category.” Ratification of the proposed new article required final approval by a 2/3 majority of the voting members present at the IFLA Buenos Aires Council meeting, which was achieved. This new category will have an impact on our MLAS membership.

2. Global Library Association Development (GLAD) program

During the past year, IFLA headquarters and the Governing Board began actively promoting the new Global Library Association Development (GLAD) program as an important tool in building IFLA membership. The GLAD concept was designed to encourage participation in IFLA by library associations in developing areas and/or those with budgets under 10,000 EU, and to provide resources to strengthen library associations. The GLAD program proposes partnerships between participating and sponsoring national library associations and IFLA, and MLAS implementation and management with the support of IFLA Headquarters.

The concept for the program was first introduced in the ASupporting documentation for ballot@ of the April 2004 Postal Ballot relating to revisions to the Association Membership category. The MLAS was designated as the focal point for developing the proposal and work began at the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference with a meeting of several interested people. From this meeting, a special committee was formed to write a draft proposal. The committee was chaired by Sylvia Piggot (Canada) included Michael Dowling (USA), Keith Fiels (USA), Janice Lachance (USA), Jill Martin (UK), Kelly Moore (IFLA), and Elisabeth Watson (Barbados). A proposal was presented to the MLAS Standing Committee and members for comments and subsequently presented and approved by the IFLA Governing Board at their December 2004 meeting.

3. IFLA New Professionals Discussion Group (NPDG)

Early in the year, the MLAS was asked to look at a proposal by Andrew Cranfield (Denmark) and Stuart Hamilton (United Kingdom) for the creation of a *IFLA Young Librarian's Forum* with the possibility they could be established under our section. Sabine Stummeyer and Winnie Vitzansky acted as liaisons to the group and the MLAS committed to funding some of their work. The group became the IFLA New Professionals Discussion Group (NPDG) and their first meeting was held at the IFLA Buenos Aires Conference on August 24th, 2004. The meeting was convened by Andrew Cranfield, Stuart Hamilton and Loida Garcia-Febo (Puerto Rico/US) over 50 new library professionals from all over the world participated.

The meeting began with addresses from IFLA President Kay Raseroka, CILIP Chief Executive Bob McKee and introductions from the three conveners. Following this, the attendees split up into

smaller groups to brainstorm ideas for the future direction of the group. This part of the meeting was successful in developing priorities, which included a clear and efficient system of online communication, a concentration on job exchange opportunities, and knowledge transfer between senior professionals and newcomers to the library world. To this end, the NPDG conveners have worked with IFLA Headquarters to set up the NPDG-L listserv and over 200 people signed up within the first week it was announced. The next stage is to generate discussions on the NPDG-L listserv, to develop a program for the IFLA 2005 Oslo Conference that addresses the groups=s priorities and to attract new members.

4. Library Association Guidelines Brochures

In 1998, the *Library Association Resource Kit* project became an effort to publish brochures based on chapters of the 1989 *UNESCO/RTMLA Guidelines for the Management of Professional Associations in the Fields of Archives, Library and Information*. After several years, all brochures are now written and translations into the working languages of IFLA are continuing. There were some problems with the initial Spanish translations and for the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference, Alicia Ocaso worked with Jennefer Nicholson to redo the translations. They were completed in time for the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference and became the Spanish *MLAS Information Kit*, distributed at the MLAS Open Session.

5. MLAS Listserv

The successful *MLAS* listserv continues to be hosted by the Special Libraries Association in Washington, D.C., USA, and is constantly growing in members and postings. During this reporting year, the list grew from 271 to 323 subscribers representing library associations throughout the world.

6. MLAS WWW site

Updating of the IFLA MLAS WWW site continued this year, including the posting of additional completed IFLA MLAS guidelines brochures in several languages.

Publications

Vester, Finn and Winnie Vitzansky, *ALibrarians and politicians behind the same wheel.*@ IFLA Journal, 30:1, p.55-58. This paper was originally presented at the 69th IFLA MLAS joint workshop with Library Theory and Research. Berlin, Germany, August 6, 2003.

The *2004 MLAS Membership* brochure was published this year and printed in English. Additionally, the *2004 MLAS Membership* brochure, as well as the *MLAS Strategic Plan, 2003-2005* were translated into Spanish and distributed at the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference as part of the *MLAS Information Kit*.

The seven guidelines continue to be translated and appear on the IFLA MLAS WWW site <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/smla.htm#6> At the end of this year, the following guidelines are available on the site:

The Organizational Structure of Associations. Only in English.

Association Programs and Services. In English, German, Russian, Spanish and Chinese.
Developing Policies and Procedures for the Library Association. In English, German, Chinese, Russian, Spanish.
Guidelines for Financial Management of Library Associations. In English, German, Chinese, French and Russian.
Guidelines for Governing and Leading Library Associations. In English, German, Chinese, Russian and French.
Guidelines for Library Association Operations. In English, Russian, French and Chinese.
Expanding Advocacy in the Library Community - A Guide for Developing a Government Relations without Borders. In English, German, Russian, Spanish, French and Chinese.

Conference Programs

The MLAS sponsored an Open Session at the 70th IFLA Conference in Buenos Aires titled *AGlobal Advocacy for Libraries - the Role of IFLA and the National Library Associations,* and held on Thursday, August 26, 2004. The session drew 125 people. The session began with the paper *APromoting Libraries for Politicians as a Politician,* by Mirja Ryyänen from Finland. Winnie Vitzansky then presented “An Example of Global Lobbying for Libraries: World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva 2003.” IFLA President Kay Raseroka then spoke on the role of IFLA in the host country of Switzerland and was followed by Danielle Mincio from the Swiss Library Association. Alicia Ocaso from the Uruguayan Library Association and Pensri Guaysuwan from the Thai Library Association then addressed the role of national library associations. The two last speakers on the role of library associations, Winnie Vitzansky from the Danish Library Association and Sinikka Sipilä from the Finnish Library Association, were unable to present their papers due to the lack of time. They planned to submit their papers for posting on the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference site on IFLANET; however, to date, they are not posted.

During Open Session, the MLAS brochures and guidelines, as well as 50 copies of the *MLAS Information Kit* in Spanish, were completely distributed.

Relationships with other Bodies

Throughout the year, many MLAS Standing Committee members, members of our MLAS section and people representing national library associations throughout the world have continued in support the work of the *World Summit for the Information Society*.

We continue to work with *Advancement of Librarianship Program (ALP)* to develop joint programs and identify funding resources.

In addition, the MLAS has had other relationships described throughout this report.

Other Events

In August 2003, Christina Stenberg, as the MLAS Chair, was asked to be on the IFLA Governing Board for the term 2003-04. This was a year-long appointment and was extended for another year in August 2004. In December, Keith Fiels, the Interim MLAS Chair attended the Governing Board meeting.

At the MLAS 2004 mid-year meeting in Rome, the MLAS unanimously recommended to the National Association Membership Fees Working Group to propose that IFLA adjust revenue targets to provide for incorporation of Core Activities and additional advocacy activities in the IFLA organization and operating budget. In the “Supporting documentation for ballot” of the April 2004 postal ballot relating to revisions to the Association Membership category, there was the commitment that “The IFLA Governing Board will act on the MLAS request to put into place a plan for moving the financing of Core activities from external sources to IFLA’s budget starting with the Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE).” It is hoped that this will be implemented.

At the IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference, Christina Stenberg resigned as the MLAS Chair. Christina had been active in the group since the mid-1990's. She was Secretary from 1994-1997 when the MLAS was the Roundtable for the Management of Library Associations (RTMLA) and became RTMLA Chair in 1999. Guided by her leadership skills, the RTMLA transitioned into the MLAS and is playing a significant role in IFLA’s new directions. All who worked with her over the years will miss Christina’s energy, passion and leadership.

Author

Arlene Cohen, MLAS Secretary
January 24, 2005

 **Management of Library Associations Section:** <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/index.htm>