

IFLA Academic and Research Libraries – Report on Section Activities

Action Plan

IFLA requires all Sections to prepare a Section Action Plan that is developed in the context of the IFLA Strategic Plan and the Key Initiatives 2015-16. The Action Plan was prepared by the ARL Officers and circulated to the Standing Committee for input/comment.

Elections in 2017

Elections for office bearers will be held in 2017.

Four members will complete their second term – and are NOT eligible for re-nomination to ARL. Nine members will complete their first term – and are eligible to re-nomination to ARL.

We should therefore give consideration to succession planning and ensuring that we have members able to continue the work of the section, e.g. Coordination of the ARL Attendance Grant.

IFLA Attendance Grant

Over the last 12 months there has been ongoing communication with the IFLA ARL Attendance Grant sponsors: Sage and Ex Libris. Both sponsors have confirmed their continued support for 2017.

The Attendance Grant is formally presented as part of the IFLA Awards Session (Session 140).

The 2016 coordinators, Liz State and Deena Yanofsky, have prepared a report - see Agenda item 6.4.3.

Membership

IFLA rules in relation to attendance at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress

R18.26 Any member of a Standing Committee who fails to attend two consecutive meetings of the committee without reasonable explanation shall be deemed to have resigned. The place thus vacated shall be filled according to the provisions in Rules 18.24 and 18.25.

ARL Members are reminded of this rule. A document has been prepared detailing attendance at Standing Committee meetings since 2013.

Sessions at IFLA WLIC, Columbus

This year, the Section is participating in two joint sessions:

Session 080 – Metropolitan Libraries, ARL and School Libraries. Vicki McDonald has been ARL's representative on the coordinating committee.

Sessions 091 – Knowledge Management and ARL. Andreas Degkwitz and James Neal have been ARL's representatives on the coordinating committee

Session 166 – Hot Topics in Academic and Research Libraries – coordinated by Gulcin Cribb,

Reggie Raju and Jan Simane.

Satellite Meetings

Mimi Calter has represented the Committee in the planning of our joint satellite meeting in Chicago in 2016, titled: Data in Libraries: the big picture. The meeting was a collaboration between the ARL and IT sections, together with the Semantic Web and Big Data SIGs.

Vicki McDonald has participated in one planning teleconference for the satellite meeting to be held in Berlin prior to the 2017 Congress. Committee member, Andreas Degkwitz is coordinating this meeting. A separate report is presented at Agenda item 2 of Thursday's meeting.

Wikimedia

At the IFLA Congress in Cape Town, Vicki McDonald attended a meeting with Wikimedia representatives. Wikimedia approached IFLA to explore the potential for active collaborations between Wikipedia editors and libraries. In the last 12 months, there have been several teleconferences to progress the development of discussion papers. Two discussion papers have been prepared: one for public libraries and one for academic and research libraries. The papers will be presented at Session 122: Library Engagement and Wikipedia.

Vicki McDonald – Chair
Mimi Calter - Secretary