



International  
Federation of Library  
Associations and  
Institutions

## Public Libraries Section

### Standing Committee Meeting

Mid Term Meeting

Den Haag

16-17 March 2018

Friday 16 August and Saturday 17 August  
Museum of Book, Den Haag  
Netherlandes

**Members in attendance in both meetings:**

Margret Allen, Lo Claesson, Jos Debeij, Annie Dourlent, Montserrat Espuga, Jakob Guillos Laerkes, Corinne Hill, Leikny H Indergaard, Pirkko Lindberg, Ismena Meic, Anette Mjoberg, Lenka Prucková, Jan Richards, Raymond Santiago, Spaska Tarandova, Hitomi Takeuchi, Jane Wee,

**Apologies:** Adriana Cybelle Ferrari, Qiang Xu, Susan Considine, Jakob Gullois Laerkes

**Guests:** Visnja Cej

1. **Welcome:** Jan welcomed all standing Committee members and thanked them for making the trip to Den Haag and for attending the meeting.
2. **Apologies are noted above**
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** the agenda was approved
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held in Wroclaw** by Margret Allen
5. **Business Arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**  
All items arising from the previous meeting are covered elsewhere in the Agenda.
6. **Review of Action Plan 2017-2018** (as below) Attached
7. **OBJECTIVE 1:** *Support the sector through the sharing of best practice*
  - a) **Undertake a review of IFLA Public Library Service Guidelines.**  
PLS has been successful in obtaining 7000 euro for two years (14,000) to develop the Public Library Service Guidelines. This includes the use of consultants to work with the working party/Standing committee.

The new Guidelines must point to the future of libraries and not what we are doing now and must address some items which are missing from the last edition. These were identified as:

- I. Breadth and depth of technology
- II. Streamlining of services
- III. How to plan for the future

- IV. Staffing
- V. Sustainability
- VI. Evaluation of projects
- VII. Adhering to legislation
- VIII. Freedom of speech
- IX. Change

It was agreed that it was important to have good examples from the whole world but there was a feeling that there needs to be fewer than in the current document and that perhaps case studies would be preferable. Having the Guidelines online allows for the updating of these.

**Corinne** will develop a scoping document and send it to the working party (**Corinne, Montse, Raymond, Jane, Hitomi, Pirkko, Adriana and Jan**). From this we will do a call for EOI to undertake the project.

MetLib will also be invited to partner with us on this project. It was also suggested also of new partners to cooperate with FAIFE

- b) **Undertake a review IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto 1994 for relevance**  
A working party was established to work on this project **comprising Sarah, Lo, Ismena, Margret and Anette**. Stephen Wyber will be the IFLA HQ contact. **Jan** will set up a Basecamp Working Area.
  - c) **Deliver the annual Public Library of the Year Award in partnership with the sponsor (Systematic) and other IFLA Professional Groups**  
Nominations for the Public Library of the Year Award are now open, closing on 15 May. All members are invited to share the information within their networks in addition to the general promotion being undertaken by the working party and Systematic. IFLA's MetLib and Buildings and Equipment Sections have agreed to partner with PLS on this project and have nominated members to be part of the judging panel. The panel will meet virtually in May/June to assess the applications.
  - d) **Public Library Response to Draft Childrens Service Guidelines**  
Thank you to Margret Allen and her staff who pulled together the response from the PLS.
8. **OBJECTIVE 2** *Monitor, record and share initiatives that support equitable access to information and knowledge*
- a. Best Practice Examples – Workshop with SC Members and Guests
  - b. *Literacy and Reading Key Initiative*  
Margret Allen reported on the progress of this document which will be launched in KL. Several members of the SC have been involved.
9. **OBJECTIVE 3: Build capacity for public libraries and public librarians internationally through an agile and engaged section**
- a. **Ensure the delivery of strong and relevant conference programs**
    - i. **Kuala Lumpur 2018**
      - 1. Joint session with Library Services to People with Special Needs  
We have been contacted by the Chair of Special Needs with a request to suggest a speaker from a public library background to contribute to this curated program which will look at Universal Design for Libraries. Jan offered to speak to corresponding member **Mark Freeman** about his engagement in the program. [Mark subsequently agreed to be part of this session].

2. Joint Session with IFLA New professionals (Corinne and Monste) **Corinne and Monste** reported that the call for papers was very successful and expect that this will be a highly engaging and entertaining program. Speakers have been selected.
3. Joint Session with e-lending working Group (**Margaret, Jane, Lenka**) Working with selected speakers to develop the program which will be held on 29 August 8.30 – 10.30 am.
4. Joint Session with Literacy and Reading (**Lo, Spaska, Sue**) Lo reported that all is going well.
5. Joint Session with Law Libraries. (**Jan**) This was a new request and PLS role is to distribute information.
6. Division 1 & Division IV Session\_The call for papers has been distributed. There is no need for any PLS involvement at this stage.
7. **Meeting in KL**
  - a. **Section dinner** will be held on Thursday 22 August. **Jane** to organise
  - b. Possible presentation topic based on discussion at Den Haag – Bookstart Programs. **Margaret** to talk about Better Beginnings
  - c. Have Agenda on screen and also available on the web for observers to download Have list of SC members available to give observers Publicity brochure for observers **Jan, Anette, Jane**
  - d. Welcome observers personally **SC Members**
  - e. Email to potential participants re PLS program - make it look fabulous, have social media links and hashtags **Jane, Jan, Anette, Annie**

#### ii. Athens 2019

1. Satellite: A request had been made by management and Marketing to partner with them in a satellite prior to Athens 2019. PLS had previously committed to working with Library Buildings and Equipment and Academic and Research Libraries to develop the program previously planned for Singapore. It was agreed that we should honour this commitment. Following discussions with these sections and MetLib Rome is proposed as the venue for the satellite. Jan to notify M&M
2. Program: Subjects like managing social media, Leadership, the myth of the library, education of librarians, marketing, adaptive buildings, what is the value of the public library and how do you measure it?why are new professionals not staying in public libraries?

#### iii. Mid-term meetings

1. Mid-term meeting 2019. Pirkko want us to come to Finland. First we could go to Helsinki and visit the new Public Library. The train to Tampere takes 1,5 hour. In Tampere they have new libraries to visit. Maybe 11 of March-13 of March. Following discussions with MetLib and Libraries Serving People with Print Disabilities who are also holding mid-term meetings in Finland in 2019 it was decided to work towards a united program. Representatives from these sections will discuss further. Pirkko will represent PLS.

2. Mid-term meeting 2020 places were discussed as Czech Republic.  
TBC

**b. Promotion and Sharing of information**

- i. **Guest Blogger** – Jane gave a demonstration of WordPress site. You are asked to write four blogs during your month. Jane will send you a reminder before your month is coming. If you want to get access to Facebook in order to post directly send Jan the email address associated with your Facebook account.

- ii. Encourage **active participation** in the Section – workshop session on networking by all SC members and guests. **Notes attached**

- c. **Corresponding** members (Jan) Jan reported that the EOI process for new corresponding members had been very successful and the maximum five members had been appointed: Mark Freeman (UK); Sarah Dudek (Germany); Fatemeh Pazooki (Iran), Shaddy Shadrach (India); Rusudan Asatiani (Georgia)

10. **Round Table** What is happening in your Country - What are the main issues for public libraries?

11. **Other Business**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

During the program presentations were given by:

- Corinne presented the *Chattanooga Memory Project* a new project. Collecting stories, photos and films from history in a site.
- Pirkko told about her project in her library in Finland. Cooperation with designers Making local products as books and other designed things
- Montse talked about her: BiblioLab program. A commitment to creation and experimentation. Collecting local projects activities as a catalog of projects for 250 libraries.
- Spaska made an interesting introduction for us about Bulgaria Libraries and the Bulgarian Library Association.
- Lenka made also an interesting introduction about libraries and different projects in the Czech Republic as Book Start.
- Ismena talked about Nostalgic books from the past.
  
- **What I'm currently reading:**
  - Hitomi Takeuchi: Tao Nonou: *Dawn's Library*
  - Annie: Margret Atwood: *The Handmaid Tale*
  - Margret Allen: Fiona McIntosh *Tailor's girl*

Jan thanked everyone for two days with good discussions in our section.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the IFLA Public Libraries Standing Committee will be held in Kuala Lumpur at Friday 24 August

Anette Mjöberg, Secretary in PLS

## 8 a DISCUSSION TOPIC – Emerging Issues in Public Libraries

- Leadership lack of people stepping up, read the literature but don't put into practice leadership is not authoritative
- Becoming a leader in the community, the library itself, libraries role myth of the library, the nostalgia, music and theatre attracts more attention always having to justify existence
- More and more difficult to be the leader
- Libraries great in a crisis - good things happen then
- Innovation is it sustainable?
- Consider the motto 'Fail fast, fail cheap'. We are risk averse as an industry
- How do you create an organisation that wants risk?
- Have different kinds of people in libraries - goes back to library schools
- No longer require librarians, preferred not required
- Specialists required to work with specific client groups eg social workers, youth workers
- Diffuse situations
- Literacy changing, media and skills technology skills
- Skills that our staff would need
- E books challenges in each country acquisition
- Tech activities for young people bibliolibrary, engaging people in different ways in the library  
Social cohesion
- Fake news how can we teach people to evaluate what's real news
- Services for old people social importance of this senior citizens who are hidden what are the avenues we have to provide services for them

### **9 b ii DISCUSSION TOPIC – Section Participation**

- We need to address the attitude of 'IFLA doesn't concern me – it's too far away'. How do we make it relevant?
- Suggested that we give concrete examples in our discussions to avoid disconnect.
- Use all IFLA languages wherever possible
- Establish IFLA e-list
- Use our networks and current tools effectively
- Consider developing webinars on specific topics
- We need something to promote – what is our topic?
- Tap into the creative abilities of libraries – is it possible to do something similar to MetLib's video project?
- Celebrate success
- Link our social media
- Consider Skype meetings/hangouts to communicate between face to face meetings
- Increase use of Basecamp
- Distribute more information about the Public Libraries Section
- Translate web pages into IFLA languages
- Consider contacting members of PLS section in your country providing them with contact details so that they have a local contact/connection.
- Each of us invite 5 people to become members of the section
- Develop a presentation about the section – 3-4 minutes that can be used to encourage involvement.



Public Libraries Section

# Public Libraries Section Action Plan 2017-2018

Public Libraries Section

## **Objectives of the Public Libraries Section Standing Committee 2017 -2018:**

- 1. Support the sector through the sharing of best practice*
- 2. Advocate for equitable access to information and knowledge for communities world-wide that supports the democratic process, shared understanding and community well-being.*
- 3. Build capacity for public libraries and public librarians internationally through an agile and engaged Section*

Objectives <i>What do you want to achieve? Use your list above</i>	Project or activity <i>What project or activity are you going to do?</i>	Main tasks <i>What are the specific things you need to do?</i>	Responsibilities and timeline <i>Who will do them and by when?</i>	Communications <i>How will you communicate your achievements? To whom? By when?</i>	Measures of success <i>How will you show the impact of your work?</i>	Progress <i>Report here the progress of your work, at least every month</i>
<b>1. Support the sector through the sharing of best practice</b>	Undertake a review of IFLA <i>Public Library Service Guidelines</i> .	Engage consultant to work with industry stakeholders to review and update	Corinne, Raymond, Jakob, Jane, Hitomi, Adriana, Jan, Pirkko, Montse	<p>Report back to Standing Committee at mid-term (March 2018) and annual (August 2018) meetings</p> <p>Report on agreed milestones to GB through Committee on Standards Communicate progress and engage with Public Library sector internationally.</p>	Funding obtained and process commenced. Broad consultation and input	
	Undertake a review <a href="#">IFLA/UNESCO Public Library</a>	Review Manifesto	Sarah, Anette, Margaret, Ismenia	Report back to Standing Committee at mid-term (March 2018) and annual	Broad consultation and input	



	<u>Manifesto</u> 1994 for relevance			(August 2018) meetings  Consult with Public Library sector.  Report to GB through PC	Development of a relevant and useable document.
	Deliver the annual Public Library of the Year Award in partnership with the sponsor (Systematic) and other IFLA Professional Groups.	Review process in partnership with Systematic  Establish partnership with IFLA Buildings and Equipment and MetLib sections.  Explore Award becoming and official IFLA Award  Expand reach for application  Determine format for 2018 awards	Jakob, Leikny, Jan, Corinne August 2017 ongoing	IFLA PLS website PLS blog and Facebook Page National library associations and other information providers - ongoing	Number of entries  Number of participants in related program
<b>2. Advocate for equitable access to information and knowledge</b>	Monitor, record and share initiatives that support equitable	Continue to collect and share examples of best practice examples	SC members	IFLA PLS website PLS blog and Facebook Page	Number and geographical spread of stories

<b>for communities world-wide that supports the democratic process, shared understanding and community well-being</b>	access to information and knowledge	Participate in Literacy and Reading Key Initiative	Lo, Leikny, Jane, Margaret, Spaska, Susan, Jan	National library associations and other information providers - ongoing	Number of participants
<b>3. Build capacity for public libraries and public librarians internationally through an agile and engaged Section</b>	Ensure the delivery of strong and relevant conference programs	WLIC 2018 Joint session with Library Services to People with Special Needs	Lo, Pirkko, and Hitomi	IFLA PLS website PLS blog and Facebook Page National library associations and other information providers - ongoing	Number and geographical spread of participants
		WLIC 2018 Joint Session with IFLA Young professionals	Corinne and Montse		
		WLIC 2018 Joint Session with e-lending working Group	Margaret, Jane, Lenka		

	WLIC 2018 Joint Session with Literacy and Reading	Lo, Spaska, Sue		
	WLIC 2018 Public Library of the Year	Jakob, Leikny, Jan,		
	WLIC 2018 Joint Session with Law Libraries	Jan		
	WLIC 2018 Joint Division I and Division IV Session	As required		
Encourage public librarians to participate in IFLA conferences through the presentation of innovative papers or posters	Promote IFLA Conferences, Satellites and other professional development opportunities through local networks and social media	All PLS Standing Committee members	IFLA PLS website PLS blog and Facebook Page National library associations and other information providers - ongoing	Number and geographical spread of participants

	Mentor PLS Section members and other colleagues and identify opportunities			
Provide mid-term meetings which include a professional development opportunity for local and regional public library colleagues	2018 Mid-term meeting The Netherlands 19 – 23 March (TBC)	Jos		2018 Mid-term Satellite programme delivered
	2019 Tampere (TBC)	Pirkko		Professional Development opportunity delivered
	2020 TBC			
Participate in the promoting and sharing information using PLS Social media platforms, web and national networks	<a href="#">Guest Blogger</a> <a href="#">Facebook</a> Local networks <a href="#">PLS Website</a> and other channels	All PLS Standing Committee Members Information Co-ordinator	IFLA PLS website PLS blog and Facebook Page National library associations and other information providers - ongoing	Number of hits Number of stories published.
Encourage active participation in the Section	Develop an e newsletter that can be distributed to Section	Jane and Annie	Website, Social media	Members of the public library community are

	members and beyond			engaged with IFLA PLS	
	Establish mentor system for new SC members	Lo, Jakob	Email	Members of the SC feel confidence in working within IFLAs structure	
	Ensure that Corresponding members are recruited to represent those geographic areas/language groups not covered by the SC	Jan	Established networks	SC is has diverse representation.	EOI for Corresponding members successful with representation from a diverse area.
	Participate in IFLA's Global Vision discussion	Be involved in formal and informal discussions around the Global Vison process	All SC members	Website, PLS blog and Facebook Page National library associations and other information providers	Members of the public library community are engaged in the Global Vision process.  Jan and Anette to participate in Barcelona discussion

