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**IFLA
Metropolitan Libraries Section
Standing Committee Meeting
Friday, August 24, 2007
Durban, South Africa
International Conference Centre**

Present:

Members: Liv Saeteren, Oslo, Norway (Chair), Tay Ai Cheng, Singapore (Treasurer and Secretary), Barbara Clubb, Ottawa, Canada (Minute taker pro-tem), Claudia Lux, Berlin, Germany; Pierre Meunier (for Louise Guillemette-Labory), Bibliothèque de Montreal, Canada; Françoise Bérard, Paris; Vickery Bowles, Toronto, Canada (for Jo Bryant)

1. Introductions: Chair Saeteren asked members and guests to introduce themselves. Liv explained the few members present because traditionally the MetLib Section's Spring meeting has been the more important one and members would attend the session rather than this. She also updated on the recently completed Spring meeting in Seattle
2. New Standing Committee Members for 2007: Liv went through the list of elected members. The list is appended in Annex I.
3. IFLA 2008 – We have been allocated a 2hour slot for the conference in Quebec. We need to thinking of suitable papers for the presentation using the theme; Libraries Without Borders.
 - ✓ 4 Committee to Evaluate Papers –Liv proposed that a committee be formed to evaluate papers for presentation at IFLA. Barbara will Chair the Committee with Liv, Vicki, Ai Cheng, Gerard and Christine as members.
 - ✓ Presentations need to be more lively
 - ✓ We selected the Sommerville paper to nominate for IFLA publication
 - ✓ METLIB will not have call for papers for 2008
 - #128 Social Inclusion (All day session with four sub-themes sponsored by Division 3)
 - Comments on #128
 - ✓ HQ really liked it
 - ✓ Some felt there was too much coming and going of delegates
 - ✓ Some very good papers
2. 2008 Conference Program Development: B. Clubb had prepared a list of topics and ideas for consideration for 2008 IFLA Quebec. Following a discussion on those and other options it was decided to pursue the following course of action:
 - Theme: *Libraries on the Urban Agenda*
 - Agreed that METLIB will not mount any pre or post satellite conferences or seminars

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- Consider possible topics for METLIB Section program:
 - ✓ Advocacy - theory and practice
 - New publication by Southern Ontario (Canada) Library Services: *The Library's Contribution to Your Community: a resource manual*, 2007
 - Joan Fry Williams: great speaker from California; bases her presentations a lot on research and statistics; a video is available on the 'net; has recently been key-note speaker at both Alberta and Ontario Library Associations
 - Canadian Library Association has an *Advocacy Now Program* with an accompanying manual. Canadian librarians Pat Cavill and Wendy Newman do a presentation which can be tailored to length. Cavill has worked extensively with new METLIB section member Kathleen Imhoff.
 - American Library Association has published *Library Advocate's Handbook*, Rev 2006.
 - ✓ Multiculturalism and Inclusiveness: some possibilities
 - *Welcome to the Library* new manuals for use with ESL, FSL and other immigrant groups, being published in October 2007 by the Ottawa Public Library (in both English and French)
Contact: Elaine.Condos@biblioottawalibrary.ca
 - *Multicultural Settlement Workers Program* in place in Toronto and Ottawa Public Libraries (possibly others around the world); funded by the Federal level of the Canadian government
Contacts: Elaine.Condos@biblioottawalibrary.ca
Jo Bryant, Toronto Public Library
 - *Working Together*: an innovative project attempting to overcome social barriers for marginalized people in Canada's libraries. Working Together exists is a pilot project in four Canadian cities - Vancouver, Regina, Toronto and Halifax. The Working Together web site has lots of information, an overview of best practices in this area as well as a discussion board. The project is entering its last year and would like to do a presentation.
Contact: André Gagnon, Regina Public Library
 - Buildings and Architecture: Creating Buildings for Tomorrow
 - Possible joint section with Buildings and Equipment Section: B. Clubb spoke to Chair Andrew Cranfield prior to the meeting and he indicated interest
 - WOW/Gasp Concept of renovating and renewing libraries: West Palm Beach and Ottawa Public Library have both used elements of this method. The major presenter is Peter Robinson, President of Mildly

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Delirious Design Inc in conjunction with client library esp West Palm Beach.

- Developing a Functional Building Program: Ottawa Public Library is working with RPG, a Vancouver planning firm, to develop the functional program for a new central library. This firm has done similar programs for Vancouver, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Winnipeg, New York Public Library, Philadelphia. Andrew Brown and Mark Meher are the principles.
- *Lise Bissonnette*: president and general director of the [Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec](#), formerly known as the [Bibliothèque nationale du Québec](#). She has been the driving force behind the new Grande Bibliotheque in Montreal and the success of the library and its program. (Quebec and/or Milan).
- Urban Libraries Use of Social Networking Systems: Facebook etc
- ✓ Possible speakers for larger meeting/venue in coop with other sections:
 - *Dr. Linda Duxbury*, Carleton University (Ottawa); was great keynote speaker at the Canadian Library Association, May 2007; speaks on recruitment and retention and also intergenerational conflict and tension in the workplace. She may be expensive so METLIB could cooperate with other sections like Public Libraries etc
 - *Stephen Abram*: Current President of Special Libraries Association and VP Innovation for SirsiDynix; speaks on innovation, emerging trends in technology etc. Was one of the keynotes at METLIB Seattle '07 and is Canadian.
- ✓ Contacts to advise/assist with 2008 IFLA program development
 - Jo Bryant (Toronto)
 - Louise Guillemette-Labory (Montreal; METLIB SC member)
 - Vicki McDonald (Brisbane; METLIB SC member)
- ✓ Agreed that Chair Saeteren would send out an email to SC and section members to solicit additional program ideas for both 2008 (Quebec) and 2009 (Milan) programs
- Possible collaboration with other sections:
 - ✓ Theory and Research: L. Saeteren to approach them
 - ✓ Public Libraries [special speakers as above]
 - ✓ Buildings: B. Clubb [has approached; they are interested]
 - ✓ Multiculturalism: B. Clubb [has approached; they are interested; Chair Mijin Kim located in Ottawa]
- 2009-Milan: Possible topics for program
 - ✓ Architecture and Buildings

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- ✓ Advocacy and demonstrating value of libraries: building on theme from 2008
 - Not just working with media and politicians
 - Ensuring library staff is in tune with society's changing needs, norms and values.

3. 2008 & 2009 Mid-Year Meetings:

- 2008: Confirmed that it will be held in Prague, June 1-6 (Theme is *Libraries for everybody seeking to understand the world and themselves*); planning is underway. L. Saeteren to contact Director Tomas Rehak to provide updated information to members ; meeting contact/coordinator is: Alena Cerna cerna@mlp.cz
- 2009: Possibilities are Brisbane, Australia; Hong Kong, China; Zagreb, Croatia [Brisbane also won IFLA 2010 bid]

4. Projects:

- METLIB Guidelines for Guidelines: there are sufficient funds in the current budget but it was agreed that we should prepare an application for funding to complete them; this could be developed by Ai Cheng, reviewed in Prague and submitted for 2008-09. Chair to follow-up.
- Statistics: Vickery Bowles (representing Jo Bryant from Toronto) agreed to check to see if funds are needed for this project being led by Toronto Public Library
- METLIB Brochure: to be completed in English and possibly French for distribution at Prague and Montreal. Would also be useful for use in promoting the section to Canadian members and enticing them to Quebec 2008 .

5. Long-Term Strategic Plan: Chair Saeteren advised that each IFLA section needs to develop a long term plan. The METLIB plan for 2006-2007 is up on the IFLA website and now needs to be renewed and further populated. It was agreed that Ai Cheng would be asked to draft an updated plan for review before and at Prague.

Submitted by

Barbara Clubb

METLIB Steering Committee Member

And

City Librarian, Ottawa Public Library/Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa