

## **Division V – Collections and Services**

### **Minutes of the Coordinating Board Meeting Boston, August 17, 2001**

**Prepared by Hartmut Walravens**

Participants: Members, including Graham Cornish (UAP) and Annsofie Oscarsson as a new member. Regrets from Ed King (RTN)

The chairman welcomed the participants, congratulated Annsofie Oscarsson on the establishment of the new SC on Reference Work, handed out the agenda, and, after a roll call, he gave a report on the preceding PB meeting.

There are discussions to organise the future General Conferences in two layers – plenary meetings (e.g. in the morning) and section specific meetings (e.g. in the afternoon). That would eliminate part of the clashes between important events. An official organiser might streamline the General Conference and make it more successful, also from the financial point of view.

Satellite meetings for Berlin 2003 should be registered until March 02, for Glasgow until Wednesday of this meeting week. Experience has shown that many people who attend the satellite meetings do not go to the general conferences, but they might not do that anyhow. Round Tables and similar groups are given a life span of up to 4 years, then they should be re-evaluated and, if necessary, turned into SCs. Comments on this issue may be given until October this year. As to the RT on newspapers, its chair has already pointed out several times that it is not a „free-floating RT“ but belongs to the Serials SC, its parent body. The RTN is not interested in becoming a SC because there are not enough newspaper specialists available world-wide for the rotating membership scheme. If the RTN cannot go on as before, however, the SC status would be preferable.

Financial reports and Strategic Plans are due in October.

The exact future of IFLANet is still not clear. Pertinent issues will be handled by HQ. The Division web page certainly needs some investment; it is agreed that a useful measure would be mounting the CB minutes on the web.

Administrative funds are usually not enough to cover production and distribution of section newsletters. Fortunately part of the cost is often covered by the officers' libraries. This leads to a discussion on whether electronic newsletters would be sufficient. It is agreed that that would not be an ideal solution.

As to outside speakers for the General Conferences, each Division will get funds to cover one 1-day registration. The speaker in question should belong to a group that usually would not participate in an IFLA Conference.

As the Division still has a small amount of money, this would finance another 2 speakers for Glasgow.

R. Manning will report on the highlights of the conference. Pertinent information should be passed on through the Division chair by Wednesday.

Glasgow: As Edinburgh is near by, a “break-out” day is planned in order to attend the Edinburgh Tattoo.

The question is raised whether printed conference booklets may not be useful after all, e.g. for attendants with an insufficient command of English, and for permanent access to the information. Statistics have shown that only a nominal percentage of attendees wants the booklets. On the other hand, there is a world-wide audience which might be better served by the publication of conference proceedings. As contributions and papers are admittedly of varying quality, there would be the need of an editor.

The participants were asked to give a preview of their conference programmes.

#### *Universal Availability of Publication*

Does not have an event of its own this time. It continues to work with CLM whose secretariat it maintains. The changing role of IFLA’s core activities, the questions of funding and sponsorship have to be solved before a convincing strategic plan can be developed. If a section would like to do a project with UAP both partners might look for outside funding.

#### *Document Delivery and Interlending*

The Open Session is devoted to *End user involvement*, the workshop to the *Interoperability of ILL systems*. There is a discussion group on storage libraries.

#### *Reference Work*

There is a programme with 5 speakers: *How different is virtual reference from face-to-face reference?*

#### *Serial Publications*

The Open Session is called *From bibliographical access to content by a click of the mouse*. It deals with the changing role of serials management in publishing houses, aggregators and libraries.

There is no workshop as it was too difficult to find competent speakers.

As a side issue, the need for more committee members is discussed. While the co-option solution is not yet accepted, it might be helpful to fill at least unexpected vacancies (“dropouts”). Helen Sheehy and Mary Jackson will prepare a resolution.

#### *Acquisitions and Collection Development*

A workshop deals with the exchange of publications, an Open Session with electronic collections. The discussion group changed its topic and will now deal with the issue of free provision of medical journals to developing countries.

There is a discussion on who decides on simultaneous translation. ACQ’s wish was not granted but the matter did not go through the PB.

#### *Rare Books and Manuscripts*

The Open Session covers *History of printing in America*. Instead of a workshop there will be a visit to Harvard libraries, and on Thursday a full-day excursion to Worcester, by invitation of the American Antiquarian Society.

*Government Information and Official Publications*

The Open Session is called *Government and Digital Information - a Vanishing Record* another event on Information and Parliament is co-sponsored.

*Round Table on Newspapers*

The Open Session deals with *Newspapers in the Americas*; instead of a workshop the RTN joins the excursion to the American Antiquarian Society.

The chairman circulated a list of current projects. Participants gave brief progress reports.

The chairman reminded participants of staffing the IFLA booth according to the distributed schedule.

On Sunday, 3 p.m., an extraordinary CB V meeting will be devoted to the election of the new CB V chair. Of the present members M. Jackson and H. Walravens indicate their interest to stand for election [The latter stepped back later on owing to his many other duties.]