Acquisition and Collection Development Section

ACTION PLAN 2011-2013

REVISED SEPTEMBER 2010

REVISED AND ANNOTATED AUGUST 2012

Background information

The Acquisition and Collection Development Section focuses on the methodological and topical themes pertaining to the interrelated processes of collection development (planning and building a useful and balanced collection of library materials over a period of years) and acquisition.

Collection development is based on ongoing assessments of the information needs of library clientele, usage statistics analysis, and demographic projections, and is normally constrained by budgetary limitations. The processes of collection development include:
- formulation of selection criteria
- planning for resource sharing (i.e., cooperative decision-making within library consortia or with other libraries)
- planning for new collections or collection areas
- routine selection and de-selection decisions
- evaluating options for access (e.g., format choice, ownership v licensing)

These processes are guided by a Collection Development Policy which establishes priorities and facilitates decision making

The activities associated with the acquisition of materials (print, other traditional format library materials, and electronic resources) by purchase, exchange, gift, or legal deposit, include:
- ordering, receiving, claiming, and payment
- selecting and evaluating supply sources
- negotiating pricing
- licensing of electronic resources
- the open access movement
- scholarly communication

Specialized interests of the Section include collection development policies, collection development methods, techniques and practices for collection assessment, usage statistics, materials pricing issues, replacement of lost

or damaged items, ownership vs. access issues, format duplication, librarians' relations with publishers and vendors, and utilizing emerging technologies to enhance access to information resources. As access to materials becomes an increasingly viable alternative to ownership, the Section finds itself working more closely with the Sections on Serials and Other Continuing Resources, Document Delivery and Resource Sharing, and any advisory committees within IFLA that facilitate discussions between libraries and publishers and/or producers of electronic resources. Also of concern to the Section are the impact and application of technological developments that underlie many of the changes observed in library procedures, patron-initiated practices, and partnering arrangements for acquiring materials (such as electronic data interchange (EDI), licensing agreements, and cooperative and collaborative collection development). In formulating its Goals the Section strives to be flexible and responsive to changing conditions in the professional environment as well as in the information industry. The Section is especially cognizant of the need to integrate its Goals with the IFLA thematic focus and professional priorities.

Mission

The mission of the Section on Acquisition and Collection Development is to serve as a forum for the broader discussion and dissemination of information on evolving acquisition methods and for promoting strategies for successful and effective collection development in an evolving information environment in libraries around the world.

Goals

1. Monitor and evaluate the evolving nature of library collections, both print and electronic, including the increasing importance of consortial and cooperative acquisition and exchange programs. In addition, the Section is interested in the acquisitions function in libraries worldwide, including ordering and payment for materials electronically. Provide programmes on acquisition and collection development.

IFLA Strategic Initiatives:

(1) Digital Content Programme: Driving access to content, and digital resources, for library users.
(2) International Librarianship Leadership Development Programme: capacity building to raise the voice of the profession nationally, regionally and internationally
(3) Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession: connecting, collaborating, representing strategically

(5) Multilingualism Programme: a multilingual IFLA website opens windows to the world

Actions:

1.1 Develop annual programmes and satellite meetings (jointly with other sections, as appropriate) on a broad range of topics with application to all library types and to all geographic areas of the world. Publish a call for papers and select appropriate speakers, both regional and non-regional. (Completed) (Plan for a satellite meeting in 2014) (2)

1.2 Ensure that conference papers are translated into IFLA languages to promote a wider dissemination. (Ongoing) (5)

1.3 Continue to hold Mid-Term meetings to focus on the on-going activities of the Section, including preparations for the Annual Conference, and to present seminars for local colleagues on matters of local professional interest. (In consideration of world economic issues, on hold until a later date.) (2)

1.4 Sponsor conferences worldwide on relevant topics, such as the conference on repository libraries in Kuopio. (Completed August 2012) (3)

1.5 Sponsor workshops on acquisition and collection development issues. (Reviewing for 2012-2013.) (2 & 3)

2. Provide information on collection development activities, such as guidelines on collection development, e-resources, gifts, and de-acquisition and weeding of library collections.

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Actions:

2.1 Focus on completion and electronic publication of the first version of the IFLA Electronic Resources Guidelines. (Completed English version August 2012) (1 & 2)

2.2 Ensure that the Section's publications are translated into IFLA languages. (Gifts guidelines now published in all IFLA languages except German and Arabic. 2012.) (Plans to publish papers and translations for satellite conference papers published on web.) Next step to translate into other languages, with volunteers from 7 languages working to complete by January 2013) (3 & 5)

3. Develop working and cooperative relationships with comparable acquisition and collection development focused groups outside of IFLA.

IFLA Strategic Initiative:

Actions:
3.1 Initiate formal and encourage informal contact with the various acquisition and collection development organizations of the American Library Association, with the Collection Development Division of LIBER, and with the global scholarly and commercial trade publishing marketplace. (To review in upcoming year, 2013) (3)
3.2 Maintain awareness about related conferences, such as the annual Charleston Conference, and about the activities of IFLA Sections that focus on subject content and specific library environments. (Completed via ACQUIS newsletter and now the blog.) (3)

4. Provide information about the work of the Section and the Standing Committee on IFLANET via Blog, publication of papers given during IFLA conferences or at Mid-Term meetings.

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Actions:
4.1 Publish electronically the blog of the Section regularly, with a focus on the ongoing activities of the Section, reports/news from libraries and institutions worldwide, and book reviews. (Moved from a Newsletter to a Blog in May 2012) (2 & 3)
4.2 Maintain the Section's webpage, ensuring timely updates with news, events, publications, minutes of meetings, and useful addresses. (On going) (2 & 3)
4.3 Maintain the ACQUIS-L and ACQUIS-NEW (with the latter to facilitate the exchange of files) restricted discussion lists for all Standing Committee members and encourage discussion and information sharing through these two channels. (On going) (2 & 3)
4.4 Disseminate significant Section documentation and announcements to the COLLDV-L, CHIEFCDO and LIBER discussion lists, at a minimum.
4.5 Explore social networking options to work in conjunction with the blog for sharing information about the Section's activities, promote the work of the

Section and create a forum for discussion of topics of interest to the Section. (Management team to begin in Fall 2012.) (2 & 3)

5. Strengthen the Section by pursuing measures to increase membership.

IFLA Strategic Initiatives:

    (2)   International Librarianship Leadership Development Programme: capacity building to raise the voice of the profession nationally, regionally and internationally

    (3)   Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession: connecting, collaborating, representing strategically

Actions:
5.1 Promote membership in the Section, identifying which countries are under-represented and emphasizing a broader geographic representation of the Standing Committee. (On going) (3)
5.2 Provide information on how to become a member of the Section on major collection development-related electronic discussion lists. (On going) (3)
5.3 Provide information on how to become a member of the Section on the website. (On going; Review in fall 2012 what is there now.) (3)
5.4 Maintain the policy that the Chair welcomes in writing all new Section members. (On going) (3)
5.5 Join the IFLA programme "Adopt a student" as a Section. This programme allows us to work with and mentor a student as a member of the Section, to encourage their involvement in our Section and IFLA. (To be in place before the next IFLA Meeting in Singapore in 2013) (2 & 3)

APPENDIX: Continuing Issues Agenda
The Continuing Issues Agenda documents, for future reference and possible action, topics of continuing interest to the Standing Committee. See 1.3 of this Strategic Plan.

    A. The endangered species of print (Completed with the Program 2012)
    B. Scholarly communication
    C. Open access
    D. Guidelines for digitization projects
    E. Electronic licensing issues and concerns (Completed with the E-Resources Guidelines August 2012.) (1)
    F. Developing and managing hybrid collections (Completed with Satellite 2011)
    G. Possible cooperative projects within IFLA with Serials, Copyright and Other Legal Matters and/or Preservation and Conservation
    H. Counting our digital assets

I. Impact of economic recession on collection development (Completed with Programme 2011)
J. Storage and preservation of collections (Completed with Satellite 2012)

Adopted by the Standing Committee of the Acquisition and Collection Development Section of IFLA (Division II), November 2009.

Comments in blue by Joseph Hafner, August 13, 2012