

Bibliography Section Annual Report 2012

Prepared by Carsten H. Andersen, chair

Mission

The Bibliography Section furthers universal bibliographic control (UBC) by promoting standards and best practices in the production, content, arrangement, dissemination and preservation of bibliographic information related to the national output of each country. In the context of UBC, the Section is particularly concerned with the work of national bibliographic agencies in the digital era. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of national bibliographic data [the discipline of bibliography] to library professionals in all types of libraries, publishers, distributors, retailers and end-users. Promotion of open access to national bibliographies and business models in support of this are also important issues, bearing in mind the need to balance open access/extra services.

While taking full account of technological capabilities, the Section will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies.

The Section closely associates its work and activities with that of other sections within the Division of Library Services. Where appropriate, it seeks ways to cooperate with divisions and sections beyond Division III.

Membership and officers

Approx. eighty associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section. At the moment, the SC counts 18 full members and 3 corresponding members. The following nations are represented: Austria, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea; Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

In 2012, the Section was chaired by Carsten H. Andersen, Danish Bibliographic Centre. Anke Meyer, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, served as secretary and treasurer and Neil Wilson, British Library served as information coordinator/web editor.

Activities in 2012

Warsaw satellite meeting

The Bibliography Section co-arranged together with the Cataloguing Section a satellite meeting in Warsaw on August 9 on the theme "Bibliography in th Digital Age". Co-arrangers from the section were Grazyna Jaroszewicz, Sinikka Luukkanen, Françoise Bourdon and Vincent Boulet. The meeting was brilliantly organized by the National Library of Poland, which very kindly hosted and sponsored the meeting, making it possible to offer attendance without any fee.

Conference website with videos of presentations: <http://bn.org.pl/ifla-2012/ifla-2012/>

Helsinki SC meetings

Minutes from the meetings:

<http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/bibliography/Documents/2012MinutesSCmeetings.pdf>

Helsinki open session

The open session was titled: “*What is a national bibliography today and what are its potential uses?*”. The session was organized by Françoise Bourdon, Grazyna Jaroszewicz and Miriam Nauri. Despite being one of the very last sessions of the conference, the session was very well attended.

Papers are available on the IFLA website: <http://conference.ifla.org/past/ifla78/session-215.htm>

National Bibliographies in the Digital Age: Guidance and New Directions

In 2012 Japanese was added to the list of available translations now offering the current guidelines in English, Chinese, Spanish, Latvian, Lithuanian and Japanese.

A new approach has been decided for a revision of the guidelines: instead of a print publication the publishing platform will be a micro website with a dynamic and ongoing update of existing and amendment of new best practices. Thus, the new publication form will be online, open access in a heavily interlinked way including a lot of links to other online platforms or to further objects, ensuring a current update of the links and contents.

Where possible, information of the already existing guidelines that is still valuable will be reused, however not a whole copy paste of the wording, but only a reuse of the gist of information. Work will be started on the most pressing topics and then the first pages will be opened for comments.

A framework of topics has been identified. The contributions shall be from different experts all over the world and not be limited to the standing committee members.

In the new concept, the phrase best practices will replace guidelines.

A working group has been formed to facilitate realization of the new concept. The group consists of Karin Kleiber, Anke Meyer-Heß, Lobel Machala and Neil Wilson (convenor).

National Bibliographic Register

The number of entries in the register has increased from 36 to 44.

Statement on UBC

Based on a proposal that IFLA reaffirm its commitment to universal bibliographic control, Barbara Tillett and Glenn Patton prepared a draft statement which was finalized after comments from the section as well as the Cataloguing and Classification and Indexing sections. The statement, endorsed by these sections, was endorsed by the Professional Committee in December and referred to the Governing Board for information.

Link to the statement:

<http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/bibliography/Documents/IFLA%20Professional%20Statement%20on%20UBC.pdf>

WLIC 2013 open session

The theme for the open program will be: "Opening up the national bibliography for the future" and shall focus on the users, building services on bibliographic data, mash ups etc. The open program will be organized by Anke Meyer-Heß and Karin Kleiber.

Communication

We are still struggling a bit with the section blog and the ambition to turn the blog into an essential means of sharing new developments in the area of bibliographies. SC and section members are still and repeatedly invited to provide postings.