

Joint meeting between IFLA: School Libraries and Resource Centers Section and the International Association of School Librarianship

Friday 13th August 2010, Gothenburg

All the members of the meeting introduced themselves : Randi Lundvall (IFLA), Dianne Oberg (IASL), Karen Usher (IFLA), Lesley Farmer (IASL), Luisa Marquardt (IFLA), Helle Barrett (IASL). Guests: Myrtle Harris (IASL Jamaica), Paulette Stewart (IASL Jamaica) and Barbara Immroth (IFLA)

It was agreed that Dianne Oberg would Chair the meeting and Karen Usher act as Secretary.

Many of the group belonged to both organisations.

1. The joint Pre-Conference that will take place on Friday 5th August, 2011 at the Mona Campus of the University of Jamaica.

There was discussion of possible themes – 21st Century Learners, Millennial Learners, born 'digital' learners.

Dianne expressed confusion of the use of the term 'millennial' – in many countries this means adults of 20+. IASL felt the focus should be on students in school today and in the future.

Karen explained the idea of 'Rebooting' suggested by IFLA – next piece from Section minutes:

Teaching the teachers to use school librarians to fullest benefit for all.

Educating librarians

Educating and preparing teaching community – principals, teachers, support staff

Youth empowerment and education in using Web 2.0 for educational goals

The format of the day was roughed out:

09.00 Welcome

09.30 First speaker – Lesley suggested 'Today's environment for youth' – we are All to think of potential keynote speakers for this.

2nd speaker

3rd speaker

LUNCH

1st speaker

2nd speaker

3rd speaker

Concluding speaker – an artist – Myrtle felt that storyteller Amelia would be ideal. Helle felt the themes would appeal to Scandinavian Librarians as it reflected coming themes; also Librarians need to learn about pedagogy.

Barbara felt that 21st century learners are often the teachers of the adult teachers/librarians.

Luisa commented that freely accessible online resources can be used by teachers and librarians. Reliable information can be retrieved for government offices, reference services, school librarians and teachers. There are different ways of communicating and we should also think about ways to help people starting out on the digital age, especially in Africa.

Paulette stated that the IASL Conference will emphasise the relevancy and importance of libraries and librarians. The whole Conference will raise the importance of school libraries in Jamaica.

Dianne felt we could emphasise the need for librarians to 'reboot' their 'literacy' in 21st Century technologies.

Myrtle felt there is a large generational gap between teachers and learners.

Lesley felt that new teachers and librarians qualifying today are digitally born and they will be able to facilitate use of the emerging technologies.

Luisa felt the day should reflect the multiple intelligences and ways of learning adopted by students and that what is needed in schools should be a guiding principal.

Lesley felt a Paper should be co-presented by a Principal and Librarian on working together.

Luisa and Helle will write the Call for Papers and Lesley, Randy and Yuriko (IFLA & IASL) have volunteered to help with Paper selection.

Practical matters to be addressed – will there be a charge? Costs will include costs of Opening and Closing Speakers. Administration fees/catering/room hire/technology will all have to be costed.

Saturday 6th August 2011 will be Independence Day in Jamaica and tours will be organised – Myrtle.

Dianne will organise a Skype meeting to keep track of progress.

The group then moved on to discuss other matters of joint interest between IFLA: SLRC & IASL.

School Librarianship Book – this is to be edited by Luisa Marquardt and published by IFLA. This is at the planning stage. Dianne and Luisa are discussing themes. They would like feedback on topics which should not be regional in their application. There will be a thematic approach – school librarians and their training, providing vision and useful information. Example projects that have been successful may be included.

Helle felt that it should be in multiple languages and that IFLA-L could be used to find good models of projects.

Lesley felt that impactful projects should be included, not just those deemed successful.

GiggleIT – group would be kept informed of the application for Project Funding.

IFLA/UNESCO Guidelines 2002 & IFLA/UNESCO Manifesto 1999 – the currency of these documents gives rise to the need for revision. Lesley suggested that the Affiliate Assembly in Brisbane looked at policies. She would also ask for suggestions via the Newsletter. She would also as lead person of the gathering of ideas and suggestions.

Luisa suggested there should be a short brochure on the principles behind school libraries and school librarianship for governments.

Advocacy Toolkit – IASL will look at this. The SLRC document is housed on the Section website. Dianne commented that Alberta is doing work on advocacy which could be integrated into the Advocacy Kit – especially re principles.

Statistics – it is generally felt that there is a need for reliable statistics relating to School Libraries and Librarianship. The following comments were made:

Randi – Norwegian stats were not valid.

Helle – seconded Randi's misgivings as the Swedish stats contain many anomalies.

Dianne – Canada actually sent out questions but the data received back was unreliable.

Lesley – the single state surveys of the USA were also not clear. There appeared to be bigger differences between school libraries than public libraries in different States.

Miscellaneous:

Lesley reminded us that 2002-2012 was the UN's Decade of Literacy and wondered what successes there had been and where we should go to find them – Virginia Walter and Ivanka Stricevic are possible sources.

Dianne thanked everyone for their contributions and hoped to see us all in Jamaica. The group would continue to work towards a successful Pre-Conference and continued co-operation between IFLA & IASL.