# IFLA National Libraries Section

## `Annual Report 2009

Standing Committee
During 2009 the following members of the Standing Committee were re-elected for a second term (2009-2013):

Ms Elizabeth Niggemann (Germany)
Ms Vigdis Moe Skarstein (Norway)
Ms Deanna Marcum (United States)
Mr Martin Bossenbroek (Netherlands)
Ms Jasmine Cameron (Australia)

The following members were elected for a first term (2009-2013):

Mr Gerald Grunberg (France)
Ms Pepa Michel Rodriguez (Spain)
Ms Irina Lynden (Russian Federation)
Ms Melita Ambrozic (Slovenia)

Two members were subsequently co-opted to the standing committee for 2009-2011 to replace members who have resigned:

Ms Janne Andresoo (Estonia)
Mr Atakilty Assefa (Ethiopia)

Remaining committee members serving a first term for 2007-2011 are:

Antonia Ida Fontana (Italy)
Zhan Furui (China)
Magdalena Gram (Sweden)
Kristina Hormia-Poutanen (Finland)
Colette O'Flaherty (Ireland)
John Tsebe (South Africa)
Martyn Wade (Scotland)

The Standing Committee met at the 75th IFLA General Conference and Council in Milan on Saturday 22 August 2009. Ms Ingrid Parent, IFLA President-elect 2009-2011, completed a four year term as chair and financial officer of the Section (2005-2009).  During her term as chair and financial officer, Ms Parent also served a one year term as chair of Division 1 (2008-2009).

Mr Martyn Wade, National Librarian and Chief Executive, National Library of Scotland, was elected chair of the Section and financial officer. Ms Jasmine Cameron was re-elected as secretary for a second term and Ms Genevieve Clavel-Merrin was elected as information officer.

Strategic Directions
A new strategic plan was developed in 2009 and endorsed at the meeting of the Standing Committee in Milan. The Strategic Plan 2009-2011 reflects the Section's aim of stronger collaboration with the Conference of Directors of National Librarians (CDNL) and the IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Digital Strategies (ICADS). The Strategic Plan also acknowledges the Section's role as sponsor of the National Organisations and International Relations Special Interest group (NOIR SIG).

Overview of Milan 2009
The Standing Committee met once during the Milan conference, from 8.30am-11.20am on Saturday 22 August. Sixteen members and eleven observers attended the meeting. Steve Bergen, Program Officer, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, joined the meeting briefly to talk about the Foundation's annual Access to Learning Award. Highlights of the meeting include:
○ a report from the chair of CDNL, Ms Penny Carnaby
○ an update on the activities of the NOIR SIG by the convenor, Ms Kelly Moore
○ an update on the Online Directory of National Libraries by Mr Pierre Clavel, Clavel SA

The Section held one conference session, *National Libraries in the Digital Age*, at 8.30am on Thursday 27 August. The session comprised a keynote speech by Ms Penny Carnaby (New Zealand) and three case studies presented by Mr Martin Bossenbroek (Netherlands), Ms Vigdis Moe Skarstein (Norway) and Ms Minna Karvonnen (Finland). Approximately 300 people attended the session and members of the audience enthusiastically engaged with the speakers during question time.

The NOIR SIG held a roundtable session on Tuesday 25 August. Over 60 people attended the session and participated in discussion groups to determine the NOIR SIG's activities for 2010. This includes a survey of international activities and promoting greater understanding of protocols for international visits and exchanges through the creation of a checklist and sharing of guidelines through the NOIR SIG's webpage.

Newsletter
In 2009 two newsletters were complied, in June and November. While the newsletters remain the primary method of communicating with members, Genevieve Clavel-Merrin commenced work in December on adding information of interest to members on the Section's IFLA webpage.

Online Directory of National Libraries
During 2009 Pierre Clavel undertook development and maintenance of the list of national libraries created by the Section following the allocation of IFLA Project funds for this purpose in 2008. Further work will be undertaken in 2010 to encourage national libraries to contribute to the list. It can be found at
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_libraries