

#### LIBRARY THEORY AND RESEARCH SECTION (LTR) NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2013

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Terry Weech, chair of the standing committee of LTR

Dear Library Theory and Research Section Members:

If you have been following our Section activities, you know we have had a very busy year. Our program at the 78th IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Helsinki, Finland, was very successful, with Section's two "research protégés" presenting the papers they developed as a result of participating in the mentoring project conducted by our Section. The Helsinki program which was jointly sponsored by the Library Theory and Research Section, the Education and Training Section, and the LIS Education in Developing **Countries Special Interest** Group, had many well prepared papers (see below one of them selected by the IFLA Journal Committee).

For the 79th IFLA Congress in Singapore our open program theme is on "Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation".

We have also circulated a call for papers for our proposed satellite meeting in Singapore prior to the 79th Congress on the topic of "How do we fit in the global knowledge environment? Researching the library's role" You can find both calls below. We look forward to reviewing your proposals for either or both of these events.

This year, 2013, is an election year for IFLA Section Standing Committees. About half of our Standing Committee positions will be open for nomination. So there are many opportunities for you to be elected to our Standing Committee, but first you must be nominated by an Organizational or Institutional member of IFLA. The deadline for nominations is 6 February. For more information on the Nomination process see: http://www.ifla.org/officerscorner/nomination-electionprocess.

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### Terry Weech



We look forward to those who can continue on the Standing Committee to seek re-nomination to a second term if they are finishing their first term, but we also welcome new nominees to stand for election to the Standing Committee. Just keep in mind that your

nomination must be submitted by 6 February.

I look forward to seeing many of our Section friends and members in Singapore in August. If you would like to explore ways to become involved in the Library Theory and Research Section even if you are not successfully nominated and elected to the Standard Committee, let us know and we will be happy to explore ways you might want to become involved. Sincerely, Terry Weech, Chair of LTR

Standing Committee

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The Section Standing Committee is delighted to learn that one of the papers presented at our joint Open Session with the Section for Education and Training and the Special Interest Group for LLIS Education in Developing Countries in Helsinki in August last year, has been selected for publication in IFLA journal. PAPER FROM 2012 SESSION TO BE PUBLISHED IN IFLA JOURNAL Peter Lor, University Pretoria, South Africa

This is a noteworthy achievement, as only a small proportion of the many papers can be published every year. The paper, by Mary Carrol, Paulette Kerr, Abdulahi Musa and Wazeem Afzal, is entitled "Commonwealth of uncertainty: how British and American professional models of library practice have shaped LIS education in former British colonies and dominions".

The paper discusses the external influences shaping education for the library profession in Australia, Jamaica, Nigeria and Pakistan – four countries which were formerly British dominions and colonies and which are today members of the Commonwealth. From the late nineteenth century onwards the development of LIS in these countries was influenced mainly by the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US), which had quite different professional traditions. This meant that these four countries had to assimilate two competing and at times contradictory models for LIS education. The convergence of these two influences has had a role in shaping LIS education and has left a complex legacy.

The paper was highly relevant to the theme of the session, "International and comparative librarianship: toward valid, relevant and authentic research and education", since it dealt with one of the major themes of international librarianship, namely international influence and the dissemination of ideas in librarianship and information work. Congratulations to the four authors!

# CALL FOR PAPERS OPEN SESSION 2013

# Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation.

The IFLA Library Theory and Research Section is pleased to invite submissions for its forthcoming Open session in Singapore.

"Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation."

The theme of the IFLA 2013 "Future libraries: infinite possibilities" is intended to inspire research on diversity in libraries. The LTR program will examine the theoretical framework necessary for effective research to support diversity in future library services to diverse groups of users. In a time when there is the potential to explore infinite possibilities of ways of opening minds to new alternatives, opening doors to new opportunities, opening borders to collaboration, and the gathering of data to

provide new knowledge, it is especially important to promote research that can differentiate between what may be just old research questions and what are the most pressing research questions for the future of libraries as related to issues of diversity in both theoretical and practical experiences.

Singapore provides a very multicultural context and thus the perfect place for exchanging and sharing ideas on diversity in library services. Papers exploring research on diversity of ethnicity, language, culture, ways of living and thinking (including gender and sexual orientation issues) are invited. Indeed, the topic of diversity is intended to cover sociological, professional, educational, philosophical, historical and political issues, all of which have the potential to contribute to the

infinite possibilities of future library services.

The full call for papers is available on the <u>IFLA WLIC</u> 2013 Singapore website.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings are now available <u>Helsinki, Finland 2012</u>

## STRATEGIC PLAN

Our strategic plan has been revised for the two next years. <u>Strategic plan -LTR - 2012-</u> <u>2014</u>

## ANNUAL REPORT

Have a look on our annual report 2011-2012 <u>Strategic plan -LTR -</u> <u>2012-2014</u>

# SATELLITE MEETING

## How do we fit in the global knowledge environment? Researching the library's role

The IFLA Library Theory and Research Section is pleased to invite submissions for its forthcoming Satellite meeting in Singapore. "How do we fit in the global knowledge environment? Researching the library's role" Dates: 14 – 15 of August 2013 and Location: Singapore, University of Illinois, Advanced Digital Science Center,

One implication of changes in the scholarly landscape is that scholarship is increasingly global in nature. These changes impact issues that range from scholarly work habits and modes of communication; the need for access to multilingual resources and interfaces, design of openly accessible digital learning objects, and new modes of collaboration in collection building and resource sharing; and new library services that

revolve around the development of data services needed to curate institutional and scholarly data. If these issues are of concern to researchers around the world, then it is imperative that librarians focus on these changes within an international and global context. Such research will improve the design and delivery of library services, as well as the potential for international partnerships

designed to support those services.

The focus of this satellite meeting will be to present research on this topic and bring together librarians from research institutions who might wish to engage in collaborative research in this area.

The full call for papers is available <u>on the IFLA WLIC</u> <u>2013 Singapore website</u>.

# FOCUS ON A STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER INOUE, Yasuyo, Japan

#### Q: Who are you?

A: Former Librarian, now teaching at Dokkyo University locating at Saitama, northern part of Tokyo.

#### Q: Are you a native of Japanese?

A: Yes, I was born, grown up, went to a graduate school on American studies in Kyoto. After working at several libraries I went to a library school (Simmons; GLIS) in US. Five years ago I had been spent a year at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in US again.

#### Q: What are you teaching?

A: Five classes in one semester and seven classes in another semester, both public librarianship and school media specialist/teacher-librarian courses. Mainly I teach introduction to public librarianship, children/YA's library services, collection management, public library management, public library services, and library history. Also I teach on school library media specialist/teacher-librarian courses.

#### Q: What else are you doing?

A: I have been a member of committee on Intellectual Freedom at libraries of Japan Library Association last twenty years. So I joined first two terms to be a member of FAIFE (1998-2006), now I am back to be a member of FAIFE again along to be a member of LTR.

#### Q: What is your publication?

A: Last year I published two books on collection management, especially on e-books and libraries, and more than ten articles but all in Japanese. As for non-Japanese ones, "Manga story.:Le manga et les bibliotheques au Japon." (Bibliotheque(s); revue de l'association des bibliothecaires de france. No. 61 (2012.3) 40-44p), "The Code of Ethics of the Japan Library Association" (ed. By Robert W. Vaagan). The ethics of librarianship: an international survey (Pub. by K.G. Saur. 2002. pp.142-162), and so on. **Q: What is your research theme?** 

A: My concern is on children/YA's library services and Intellectual Freedom. Last year JLA IF committee did national survey on IF at public libraries. Almost 10 years ago we did same one, and seek for change or not among librarians' recognition on IF. Hope to compare the result at an international level soon.