

## **Public Libraries Section**

You're considering nominating for the <u>Public Libraries Standing Committee</u> (SC)? What does being a member of this SC involve?

<u>Public Libraries</u> is a very active IFLA Section. Our highly experienced members currently represent 19 countries across 6 continents which gives us a great outreach into the public library environment.

- We meet twice a year, once immediately before and during the IFLA WLIC in August and
  again at our mid-term meeting which is held in February March. Both of these events are
  held in different locations each time. While it is understand that other commitments
  sometimes prevent attendance at these meetings, there is a reasonable expectation that
  members will be able to attend at no expense to IFLA.
- SC members also have the opportunity to host a Mid-term Meeting in their country/city
  according to the Section's Guidelines. This is an exciting way of bringing together your SC
  colleagues and library professionals from your own country. In 2017 the Mid-term Meeting
  will be in <a href="Sydney">Sydney</a>.
- As a very active Section representing a major library sector the Public Libraries Section often organises a Satellite Meeting to coincide with the WLIC. In 2017 this will be in Bergen, Norway.
- Between meetings we work together using email, Basecamp and other shared platforms.
   There is an expectation that all Standing Committee members will be active participants in the process and respond to requests in a timely manner.
- We pride ourselves on our strategic approach to communications and all members are expected to contribute on a regular basis to our <u>Blog</u> and <u>Facebook</u> account. Members are also asked to actively engage with the networks within their own country to share stories and information about IFLA's activities. In turn we look forward to hearing about developments world-wide. Have we mentioned that we were the 2015 & 2016 winners of the <u>IFLA Professional Unit Communication Award?!</u>
- The development of programs for the WLIC, Satellite and Mid-Term Meetings is undertaken by project teams from within the Standing Committee. We often work collaboratively with other Sections to deliver these which affords an opportunity to learn more about IFLA and allied sections. There is an expectation that all members will take a role in this area.
- We are also involved in other projects. For example over the past two years we have had a
  focus on <u>library services to refugees</u> to which many of our members contributed. We have
  just embarked on a review of the <u>Public Library Service Guidelines</u> and this will involve many
  SC members.

For more information about what we've been doing over the past 18 months read our <u>Annual</u> <u>Report.</u> Also take a look at our <u>Action Plan</u> which will provide further details on where we're headed.

Marian Morgan-Bindon Chair, Public Libraries Standing Committee