



**Law Libraries Section
Annual Report
January-December 2013**

Section Projects

This year, the Section strengthened its structure and publications. It issued its first annual newsletter. The Section continued to send a call for papers for program proposals. Most of the papers are now published, which constitutes a solid database of scholarship.

New officers were elected. Claire Germain (USA) was renewed as Chair until 2015, Edita Bačić (Croatia) was elected Secretary and Sonia Poulin (Canada) Information Coordinator. A Certificate of Appreciation was given to Dominique Lapierre (Canada), to thank her for her excellent contributions as Secretary and in particular for the detailed minutes of the Standing Committee meetings. One of the Section's pleasures was to learn that one SC member, had been elected IFLA president - elect. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Blair Kauffman with grateful appreciation and thanks for his contributions and service as a member of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Law Libraries Section.

Valerie Alonzo continued to update the website until August 2013. She concluded her work as Information Coordinator, and she is to be commended for her contributions to the Section, the regular updates to the website and as the editor and producer of the first IFLA Law Libraries Newsletter.

Report on Digital Authentication

Marisol Floren and Sally Holterhoff presented their work on the preparation of the Report on Access to Digital Legal Sources in South America. For this Report, they used studies presented in Puerto Rico and official websites of each country. All members agreed that the Report was very useful and that the SC should continue with this kind of work.

Radu Popa said that this is a very good first step to more complex further work on the Index. Caroline pointed out that it would be important to have this kind of report for African countries, and some colleagues indicated that it would be important also to have this kind of report for South Pacific Countries. Robert R. Newlen suggested that the Standing Committee should continue to work on this kind of reports in collaboration with the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section. Sally Holterhoff, with the help of Marisol Floren-Romero and other members, will continue to work on the index and contact Stuart Hamilton of FAIFE to discuss the matter of the standards. Claire Germain concluded that this is really important work and also serious and demanding work which should be continued. She proposed a new working group: Working group on Access to official and authoritative legal information. Working group members are: Sally, Marisol, Uma, Lilia, Carol and Robert. Robert will contact the Section for the Library and Research Services for Parliament



Left to Right, Blair Kauffman, Margo Jeske, Radu Popa, Donna Scheeder, Edita Bacic, during Standing Committee meeting.



Standing Committee members Left to Right. First row, Radu Popa, Donna Scheeder, Edita Bacic, Caroline Ilako, Margo Jeske. Second row: Lily Echiverri, Marisol Floren, Carol Hinchcliff, Sally Holterhoff, Sonia Poulin, Claire Germain, Pascal Sanz, Robert Newlen. Missing: Blair Kauffman.

Conference Activities and Programs

2013 IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) conference, held August 17-23, Singapore.

Open Access to Official and Authenticated Legal Information in Asia was the title of the main program sponsored by the Law Libraries Section, with two other sections as co-sponsors. Six speakers gave presentations about trends in the online provision of legal resources by governments of countries in the region, to a large audience of nearly 130 delegates. Marisol Floren- Romero and Charote Gill are to be thanked for organizing it.

The Section co-sponsored a second program on ***Government Libraries as Voices for Open Government*** with the Government libraries and Government Information and Official Publications sections.

More information on the programs below.

Reception

A very successful reception was held for members of the Law Libraries Section, parliamentary librarians, and local law librarians. It was hosted by the Singapore Management University (SMU) and sponsored by LexisNexis. Gulcin Cribb (University Librarian) and Charlotte Gill (Research Librarian for Law at SMU) welcomed the guests. Claire Germain, Section Chair, thanked our hosts on behalf of the Section. Vivian Sia, Associate Director of Marketing for Southeast Asia, LexisNexis, provided short welcoming remarks as well.



Left to Right, Claire Germain, Sally Holterhoff, Charlotte Gill, Karine Delvert at Reception hosted by The Singapore School of Management and co-sponsored by Lexis-Nexis.

Publications

This year, in collaboration with Claire Germain, Valerie Alonzo edited the first issue of the Law Library Section Newsletter.

The Conference Papers are available on the web site, see below.

Detailed Programs

Session 126 - Open Access to official and authenticated legal information in Asia - Law Libraries, Government Libraries and Library and Research Services for Parliaments

Tuesday 20 August 2013 09:30 - 12:45

Track 1: Open access and digital resources

Description: Indian initiative to provide free access to authentic legal information UMA NARAYAN (High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Mumbai, India)

Free access to law in Malaysia RAJESH C. MUTTATH (MKMS, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) Hong Kong moves towards open access t

HANH, Le Thi Open access to official and authenticated legal information in Vietnam

BAHRIJ, John and SHIEH, Irene Hong Kong moves towards open access to authenticated legal information

NARAYAN, Uma Indian initiative to provide free access to authentic legal information

- Researching Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinean law

CAROLE HINCHCLIFF (Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia)

- Researching Singapore law

CHARLOTTE GILL (Singapore Management University Libraries, Singapore)

<http://library.ifla.org/view/conferences/2013/2013-08-20/125.html>

Session 166: Government libraries as voices for open government – Government libraries with Law Libraries and Government Information and Official Publications .

<http://library.ifla.org/view/conferences/2013/2013-08-21/>

21 August 2013 09:30 - 11:30

Speakers:

- **Access to administrative information: an issue for better citizen participation**
REYNA JOSVAH-RABIAZA (Committee for Safeguard of Integrity - CSI, Madagascar) and CAMILLE ESTHER RAHELIARISOA (Ministry of Fisheries and Halieutic Resources, Madagascar)
- **The demand side of open government**
ARI KATZ (Beyond Access, IREX, USA) and MATEJ NOVAK (Bibliomist, Ukraine)
- **Voices for open government: open data as panacea**
DUNCAN OMOLE (ERA Service Manager, Information and Knowledge Solutions, The World Bank Group)

- **Public Libraries – the government library you use most often!**
PAUL NIELSEN (Albany Public Library, City of Albany, Western Australia, Australia)

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