



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

**Law Libraries Section
Annual Report
January-December 2014**

Section Projects

The Section membership grew to 47. This year, for the first time in its existence, the Section applied for and was successful in obtaining a Professional Committee fund for a workshop in Croatia. *The Workshop for Law Librarians in South East Europe* was held in Split, October 2014. See details below at p. 9. Edita Bačić is to be commended for this initiative. In other news, the Section was proud that one of its members, Donna Scheeder, had been elected President Elect.

Working Group Report on Access to Digital Legal Information

In August 2015, at the Lyon Conference, Sally Holterhoff and Marisol Florén presented the preliminary results of a working group project, “Report on Access to Digital Legal Information in South America.” This report covered the official gazettes of ten countries of South America, focusing on the attributes of official status, open access, and authentication of these publications. The SC agreed that the report was very useful and the project should be continued, incorporating findings from other regions (Europe and Southeast Asia), which have been the focus of Section programs. Several other SC members volunteered to join the working group, which will now be known as ***the Working Group on Access to Official and Authenticated Legal Information***. A suggestion was made to contact the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section, to make their members aware of this project and perhaps enlist their cooperation.

The Section approved the concept to start speaking with the IFLA Standards Committee about the feasibility to develop a global authentication standard for electronic official legal materials. Standards Working Group.

A Working Group on Standards was formed at our second SC meeting in Lyon, with Marisol, Pascal, and Sally as the members. During the fall, Marisol Floren and Sally Holterhoff reviewed the new procedures manual (www.ifla.org/node/8719) that has been created by the IFLA Committee on Standards. A summary of their findings is attached to this Report below at p. 7, under Publications. It indicates the steps to take in developing a standard.



SC members, Left to Right. Margo Jeske, Marisol Floren, Pascal Sanz, Donna Scheeder, Edita Bacic, Elizabeth Naumczyk, Sally Holterhoff, Claire Germain, Sonia Poulin, Radu Popa, Robert Newlen.



Left to Right, Claire Germain, Sonia Poulin, and Elizabeth Naumczyk, Standing Committee members.

Former SC Member Passing: In Memory of Pedro Padilla ¹

It was with great sadness that the Section learned about Pedro Padilla Rosa's passing in September 2014, in his home in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, after some period of illness. Pedro was a true friend and colleague, a diplomat and consensus-builder, and a vibrant presence in all parts of his life. He worked as a law librarian at the University of Puerto Rico Law Library, also as an adviser on international programs at his law school. He was very involved in several different professional associations, in particular ACURIL, AALL, IALL, and IFLA. He and his colleagues, especially Ivette Torres, Supreme Court Librarian, organized a superb reception for our Law Libraries Section at the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico, with the Chief Justice as a speaker. He was a Standing Committee member of the IFLA Law Libraries Section, and a member of the National Committee which organized IFLA in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2011.



Pedro Padilla Rosa with Dean Vivian Neptune (Univ. Puerto Rico Law School) and IFLA President Ellen Tise. August 2011 Supreme Court of Puerto Rico, San Juan.

¹ Excerpt from Claire Germain's email to SC members, September 24, 2014

Conference Activities and Programs

80th IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Lyon, August 16-22, 2014

The Section sponsored two programs with other sections. The Law Libraries Section program was on *How Safe is the Law? Authentication of Official Gazettes: A Worldwide Report, with particular attention to the technical and practical aspects*. It was co-sponsored with the sections on Government Information and Official Publications, Library and Research Services for Parliaments and Information Technology.



Left to Right, Charley Barth, Didier Francois, Martine Reicherts, Sally Holterhoff

The second program was on - *Access to Law at the Digital Cross Roads: Innovative Solutions to Complex Challenges*, co-sponsored with the sections on Parliamentary Libraries, Information Technology and Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE). **More program details below.**

Reception

A wonderful reception was held at the Bibliotheque municipale de Lyon, co-sponsored by Lexis-Nexis. It included a presentation of the Lacassagne Collection of criminal law materials. It was an excellent opportunity to network with our French colleagues and librarians from all over the world.



Reception



Claire Germain and Martine Reicherts at Reception

Section Publications

The Section published the second issue of its *Newsletter* in July 2014.

<http://www.ifla.org/FR/publications/law-libraries-section-newsletter>

Sally Holterhoff and Marisol Floren published a report on IFLA Lyon in the U.S. FCIL-SIS Newsletter, available at <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/fcil/newsletters/vol29/oct2014.pdf>.

This report was reproduced on our website, <http://www.ifla.org/FR/publications/law-libraries-section-newsletter> in English, and in Spanish, with deep thanks to Marisol Floren for the Spanish translation.

http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/law-libraries/Spanish/ifla_2014_final_report_spanish.pdf

Review of IFLA Standards Manual. Fall 2014

To: Standing Committee of the IFLA Law Libraries Section

From: Working Group on Standards (Marisol Floren, Sally Holterhoff)

Re: Review of new IFLA Standards Procedures Manual
(<http://www.ifla.org/node/8719>)

For some time, the Standing Committee has discussed the possibility of proposing an IFLA standard or set of standards regarding authentication and other matters. Now that the IFLA Committee on Standards has provided a new manual, the Standing Committee has formed a Working Group and charged to study that manual and to make a recommendation on whether the Standing Committee should continue to pursue this matter.

Many countries of the world have not yet authenticated the online/digital versions of their official laws, regulations, court decisions, and other legal materials. IFLA is the major forum to influence information policy at the international level. As Chair Claire Germain has pointed out, “Looking toward the future, it seems that there might be a role for IFLA to develop a set of standards to encourage governments worldwide to publish their laws online, in stable and authenticated digital formats.”

In light of the question as to whether authentication could be the topic of an IFLA standard, we have reviewed the Manual and are providing below a summary of its contents that seem relevant for consideration by our section.

We also did a general review of the 50 current IFLA Standards (<http://www.ifla.org/node/8750>) to see if any of them apply to the wider information arena rather than primarily to libraries. One standard that might fit that description is the *Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation* (<http://www.ifla.org/publications/guidelines-for-legal-deposit-legislation?og=8708>), although it does pertain to national libraries.

Introduction: the Manual seeks to provide guidance for IFLA units on how to:

- present the need for specific standards and guidelines
- maximize consensus on content and applicability
- ensure high quality (technical and editorial)
- promote consistency
- earn endorsement by IFLA and the wider library/information community

Part 1 (Definitions) explains the criteria for an IFLA standard and explains what is NOT an IFLA standard. It points out that “IFLA publishes many other types of documents that are endorsed by the IFLA Governing Board or one of its advisory or sub-committees” but which “are not defined as IFLA Standards,” listing examples such as statements and declarations.

Part 2 (Development) describes the steps required to produce an IFLA Standard. In particular, Section 2.1 addresses proposals for a new standard and offers five questions that an IFLA unit

should consider at the outset, including “Is IFLA the best organization to publish this standard?” and “Does the unit have access to networks through which to review and to promote the standard and do they also support a new standard in this area?”

The detailed steps to be followed in the creation of a new standard include:

- forming a working group
- completing and submitting a “Standard Development Proposal” form
- having the proposal accepted
- setting up a detailed work plan (development of a standard can take up to five years)
- drafting
- submission using “Standard Approval Request” form for review and comments by the Professional Committee and the Standards Committee, as well as external subject experts, including a worldwide review
- approval and endorsement
- publication
- translations
- dissemination and implementation
- maintenance

Lyon Conference Program Details

Session 102 — How Safe is the Law? Authentication of Official Gazettes: A Worldwide Report, with particular attention to the technical and practical aspects. Law Libraries with Government Information and Official Publications, Library and Research Services for Parliaments and Information Technology

Papers available at <http://www.ifla.org/node/8904>

18 August 2014

Introduction to the Issues

SARAH G. HOLTERHOFF (Valparaiso University Law School Library, Valparaiso, Indiana, United States)

The authentic e-Official Journal of the European Union – one year on

MARTINE REICHERTS (European Union Commissioner for Justice, Citizenship and Fundamental Rights, Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Authentication of the French Digital Official Journal

DIDIER FRANÇOIS (Directorate of Legal and Administrative Information (DILA) – Prime Minister Department, Paris, France)

United States Report

CHARLEY BARTH (Office of the Federal Register, National Archives & Records Administration, Washington, D.C. United States)

Latin America Report

ALEJANDRO LOPEZ GONZALEZ (Red BOA - American Forum of Official Gazettes- Diario Oficial de la Federacion (Mexico) Mexico D.F., Mexico)

Certeza Legal para el Proceso Legislativo — with a translation: English

PATRICIA REYES OLMEDO (Universidad de Valparaíso, Valparaíso, Chile)

Session 121 - Access to law at the digital cross roads: Innovative solutions to complex challenges - Law Libraries with Parliamentary Libraries, Information Technology and Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE)

Tuesday 19 August 2014

Papers available at <http://library.ifla.org/view/conferences/2014/2014-08-19/349.html>

CHADHA, Ravinder Kumar and RAI, Priya and AKASH, Akash Transformational Role of Law Libraries in Access to Justice in India: Time to Act Locally and Think Globally

KANIS, Liesbeth Global Online Access to Law (GOAL) to Further Sustainable Development

AYE, Ni Ni and FRASER, Moira Fast Forward to the Future: building a digital repository for the Myanmar Parliament to store, organize and make accessible parliament's documents for the use of Members of Parliament, parliamentary Staff and Myanmar citizens

LICKLEY, Donald Outsourcing in UK law firm libraries – opportunity or threat? New management models and future challenges for legal information services

CIFUENTES-SILVA, Francisco Adolfo Service-Oriented Architecture for automatic markup of documents. An use case for legal documents

Croatia Workshop for Law Librarians. Sponsored by IFLA Project Fund.

39th General Conference and Assembly of the Croatian Library Association. <http://www.ifla.org/node/8772>. Libraries – from Mission to Strategy. 15 – 18 October 2014. Split, Croatia

The aim of the 39th General Conference and Assembly of the Croatian Library Association was to review the current situation and try to determine the future directions of

development of libraries and librarianship in Croatia from the perspective of new technological and social changes which affect library services and set new trends in librarianship.

Donna Scheeder and Claire Germain were invited as speakers spoke to the South East European Association of Law Libraries (SEALL), which is associated with the Croatian Library Association, and is trying to develop and strengthen the Law Librarians' Working Group . The program held on Thursday, September 16, 2015, was sponsored by an **IFLA Project Fund to improve open access to legal knowledge in that region of the world.** Edita Bacic, the director of the law library of the University of Split, Croatia, was the main organizer, and is the secretary of the IFLA Law Libraries Section. .

The 30 or so participant hailed from Croatia, Bosnia-Hercegovina, Slovenia, and Serbia. Donna Scheeder, IFLA President-Elect, made a presentation on the IFLA Trends document. Claire Germain presented my vision for the future of law librarians, emphasizing the teaching role of librarians, and the importance of forming strong law library associations and working together on projects.

The participants mentioned problems with faculty not encouraging students to attend their legal research sessions, but some are starting legal research courses, not often for credit, though. They have come up with a list of standards for law libraries, inspired in part by the AALL standards. They were made aware of the scholarships offered by AALL, IALL, and IFLA, to attend international meetings and network. It was a great opportunity to exchange on the problems facing law librarians, and experiences and knowledge of working in law libraries and library associations. The larger group of the Croatia Library Association consisted of about 250 librarians from the region, extending to Slovakia and Hungary.

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