<h1 style="text-align:center">Library Theory and Research STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2015</h1>

Mission

The IFLA Section on Library Theory & Research exists to:
- Provide a research-based framework to IFLA's professional priorities through a program promoting theoretical and empirical library and information science research and analysis;
- Provide and encourage international networking opportunities for library professionals engaged in library and information science research.

(**Professional priorities:** Supporting the role of libraries in society; Developing library professionals; Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices)

IFLA Strategic Directions:
- Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information;
- Building the strategic capacity of IFLA and that of its members;
- Transforming the profile and standing of the profession;
- Representing the interests of IFLA's members and their users throughout the world.

Goals
1. 1 Stimulate a high degree of membership participation and engagement through encouraging the sharing of practice-based and theoretical research methodologies in LIS.

1.1 Actions
1.2 Encourage theoretically as well as empirically based papers at IFLA and IFLA sponsored conferences.

1.1.1 Singapore 2013:
Congress Theme: **"Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities"**

2013 LTR Program: *Diversity in libraries: research reflecting theoretical approaches and practical experimentation.* The session examined theoretical approaches to defining diversity in the context of libraries as well as methodological strategies in research on diverse library users. The presenters explored the topics of information seeking behavior of diverse library users, library services to diverse groups of users, research methods, and diversity training programs of library professionals.

1.1.2: Lyon 2014
Congress Theme: **"Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge"**

2014 LTR Satellite Meeting - planning a session on the topic of convergence of cultural heritage institutions: *Theory and Research on the convergence of professional identity and*

technology in cultural heritage institutions (Libraries, Museums, and Archives). The satellite meeting will take place in Turin, August 13-14 and will be organized in collaboration with Italian Library Association (local organizer) and ENSIBB.

2014 LTR Program - planning a session *Libraries in the political process* with the focus on public libraries and their communities. One of the goals of the session is to examine the political and social reasons behind destruction of libraries and the impact on their communities.

2014 IFLA Library Theory & Research (LTR) Student Poster Award – LTR introduces a new program to encourage LIS students to submit and present a poster regarding the current IFLA World Library and Information Congress theme and to reward the best LTR-related LIS student Poster submission for the IFLA Congress each year. The program will give LIS students the opportunity to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress through financial support (**KI 1**), Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession (**KI 3**).

1.1.3: Cape Town, South Africa 2015

Planning will take place in August, 2014.

2. Assisting in the development of expertise and knowledge in useful research methods whilst developing, maintaining and adhering to the highest professional standards that support high quality practices.

Actions
2.1 Evaluate conference papers for possible inclusion in IFLA and other journals.
2.2 Encourage strategic use of research, innovative approaches to research, and evidence-based practice
2.3 Support the "Impact Study of IFLA Standards and Guidelines" project with the goal of investigating how IFLA standards and guidelines are used and what impact they have in the international library community. The project is related to the IFLA Key Initiatives: **KI 1** Digital Content (includes Copyright reform, Internet governance, Open Access, Trend Report, E-lending, Standards), **KI 3** Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession

3. Facilitating transnational networks of common, credible research interests
Actions
3.1 Share LTR communications via the internet
3.1.1 Use social media, including Twitter, to distribute information about LTR activities and facilitate discussion between the section members
3.1.2 Publish the LTR Newsletter in conjunction with a LTR Blog
3.1.3 Encourage attendance at LTR Standing Committee meetings and LTR sponsored programs through email contact with LTR section members.
3.1.4 Promote membership of LTR by developing a membership recruitment brochure

3.1.5 Target professional groups (e.g. library schools and Library and Information Science research organizations) to become active in the Section

      Encourage broad international representation on LTR Standing Committee

      Update the Section leaflet for distribution to targeted groups

3.2 Support the connections between the IFLA's key initiatives on Digital Content Program (**KI 1**), Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession (**KI 3**), and Multilingual Programme (KI 5) to advance training and professional development in digital librarianship and to encourage research and theory development in the area of multilingual access to digital content

3.2.1 Encourage sharing of information about best practices, guidelines, and standards in creating digital content among the members of the international community

3.2.2 Encourage collaborative research projects on multilingual access to digital content

3.2.3 Promote research on the role of cultural heritage institutions internationally at a satellite event in 2014 on *Theory and Research on the convergence of professional identity and technology in cultural heritage institutions.*

4. Serving as sponsor section for Library History Special Interest Group
Actions

4.1 Endorse mission statement of Library History SIG, which is the means within IFLA by which professionals specializing in all fields of librarianship can be made aware of the importance of an understanding of the past and of the profession's theoretical foundations to the successful provision of library services in the present and future. In particular, the SIG concentrates on universal and broad themes of library history, covering regional, international or local experience of general significance.

4.2 Library History SIG session

Lyon 2014 – The Library History SIG will partner with the Section on Education and Training (SET) in an off-site summit that celebrates 40 years of SET in IFLA by looking back and forward at LIS education.

The SIG will also collaborate with IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section and the Centre Gabriel Naudé to host a post-conference Satellite meeting at ENSSIB in Lyon. The proposed session theme is: "Building a Global Network: International librarianship at the confluence of cultures, practices, and standards"

NOTE: LTR Strategic Plan 2013-15 considers the IFLA five key initiatives and Strategic Activities, including KI 1: Digital Content Programme, KI 2: IFLA International Librarianship Leadership Development Programme, KI 3: Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession, KI 4: Cultural Heritage Disaster Reconstruction Programme, KI 5: Multilingualism Programme. The point 3.2 of the strategic plan addresses specifically the connections between the key initiatives that pertain to the mission of the LTR Section.