



**IFLA Standing Committee on Law Libraries. Minutes of Meeting.
Quebec City, Canada, August 9, 2008**

Present: Claire Germain; Frank Hurinville; Holger Knudsen (Chair); Donna Scheeder; Jules Winterton.

Absent: Dick Danner; Rubens Medina; Martin Vorberg.

1) Welcome

Holger Knudsen, Chair, welcomed the Standing Committee members, and presented the regrets of those unable to attend (Dick Danner, Rubens Medina, and Martin Vorberg). The Chair welcomed an observer, who was granted permission to attend.

2) Approval of the agenda, last-minute changes

The agenda was approved.

3) Report on the activities of the past year (Holger Knudsen)

The Chair announced that the biggest news of the year was that the Section had doubled in size over the past year, from 18 to 42 section members.

4) Presentation of our new page on IFLANET (Franck Hurinville)

Frank, Information Coordinator for the Section, explained that he had mounted the following documents on the IFLA website: the Mission Statement (English), promotional flyers (English & French). Holger said that he would provide a translation into German, and find someone to translate into Spanish. Franck noted that IFLA requests that minutes be posted on the website, as well as a newsletter. The SC discussed two priorities:

- Reinstatement of the Listserv., weeding it, and inviting new members to join. The possibility of changing the Listowner was also discussed, as well as whether the List should be open or closed. Franck will follow up on these issues. Holger will ask members on Wednesday to provide their email addresses.
- Start a newsletter, published twice a year, that would reflect: (1) the activities of the Section, and (2) projects on legal information around the world. Donna Scheeder endorsed the idea and suggested that one issue come out far ahead of the annual conference, with tips on hotels, professional contributions, information on other parts of IFLA, etc. Frank volunteered to edit the newsletter.

5) Finances (Donna Scheeder)

Donna reported that \$300 was allocated annually to the Section, and it reverts back to IFLA if not expended during a particular year. Donna noted that the money can be used to subsidize speakers' expenses. It can also be used to translate documents into languages not mastered by the SC members, and other administrative expenses.

6) Report of the Secretary (Claire Germain)

Claire reported on the major efforts this year to start the Section and increase the Law Libraries Section membership.

- A mission statement was drafted, discussed and approved by the SC, and posted on IFLANET
- Flyers were developed to publicize the Section and distributed at various meetings, including the IALL (International Association of Law Libraries), AALS (American Association of Law Schools), AALL (American Association of Law Libraries), CALL (Canadian Association of Law Libraries), and IFLA activities were also advertised through various Listservs, including the U.S. Law Library Directors Listserv, and Int-Law.

7) Events in Québec (Sessions, library tour, reception) (Claire Germain)

The Section worked hard and was successful in sponsoring three programs.

- The Law Libraries Section is sponsoring a program on Quebec Law and Digital Libraries. Maitre Daniel Boyer (McGill) discusses the Quebec legal system, as an example of a mixed jurisdiction. Dominique Lapierre (University of Laval) discusses other aspects of Quebec law and digital libraries.
- The Section is co-sponsoring a program on Authentication of Digital Law, together with the Sections on Library and Research Services to Parliament, and the Section on Government Information and Official Publications. The Law Libraries Section is taking primary responsibility for the organization and choice of speakers, who include Mary Alice Baish (USA report), Pascal Petitcollet (Europe), Sasha Skenderija (preservation of digital objects), and Claire Germain (GLIN, Global Legal Information Network).
- The Section is co-sponsoring a program on Preservation of Digital Objects. The Section proposed a speaker, but it was too late.
- Sponsorships of events: AALL is providing \$1,000 to cover a speaker's expenses (Pascal Petitcollet, Secretariat of French government, Paris, France). IALL is providing \$300 for the reception, and AALL \$500. The event is organized by Dominique Lapierre.

8) Events in Milan (Holger Knudsen)

Holger reported that plans are well under way for the Law Libraries Section program in Milan, Italy, in 2009. He has two speakers in mind. He also noted that it is very hot in Milan in August, and most law librarians are on vacation during that time period. Claire asked about a reception after the program. Holger responded that it would be hard to hold it. Jules suggested Dutch treat dinners for interested law librarians.

9) Nomination of the new Standing Committee and possible enlargement of its membership (Holger Knudsen)

Holger reported that information coordinators will soon become official officers of particular sections. The SC endorsed this concept. He also mentioned that after the Milan meeting, our Section will become part of Division I, Library type (from Division II, Special Libraries).

Holger encouraged the SC members to find new SC members. Each Section is to have a minimum of 10 SC members and a maximum of 20. We currently have 8 members.

10) Future of the Section

Holger said that IFLA must not compete with IALL. Jules Winterton, SC Member and current President of IALL, agreed but said that the two organizations need not and do not compete. Claire mentioned that they complete each other, and that IFLA is recognized by international organizations (UNESCO, WIPO, etc.) as the information policy voice for all associations worldwide. Jules agreed and said that information policy was a major reason why IALL, with AALL, had proposed the formation of the Section. Jules mentioned that the two associations will benefit from mutual acknowledgement, coordination and collaboration, and some consultation mechanism. Jules said that the Section should concentrate on on-site programs which would reach IFLA members who handle legal materials but are not law librarians, not off-site meetings. He stated that IALL wants to contribute moral support as well as money.

Holger said that he has always understood the Section 48 as a forum primarily for law librarians from all over the world who are interested in international cooperation, and who can travel to the IFLA meetings but who otherwise have no chance to attend any of the other international meetings. The Section should of course be open for all participants but particularly focus on this group of colleagues.

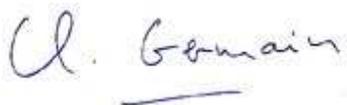
The SC members discussed how the Law Libraries Section could have a seat in other sections, and how we can have a voice in global information policy. Holger mentioned that Section member Harald Müller serves on the Copyright and Legal Matters (CLM) committee.

Donna mentioned the authentication of digital law issue as a matter that the Section may want to pursue, since some governments have no concern for preservation. This is an area of possible action by IFLA in the form of a standard. Claire mentioned that our Section programs are in line with Claudia Lux "Libraries on the Agenda" theme. Frank expressed his interest in law and development programs for the section, mentioning his role in providing grants to colleagues from developing countries. Other possible areas would be to develop guidelines to start a law library association in a particular country, guidelines for a core collection for libraries in countries with developing economies, and other guidelines.

Donna mentioned that this coming year is an organizing year, and that we should communicate with our members to get an idea of their interests. She, Claire, and Frank resolved to work on a Survey to that effect.

11) Other business

Holger thanked the SC for their attendance and participation, and closed the SC meeting. The business having been concluded, the decision was not to have a second meeting at the end of IFLA.



Respectfully submitted,
Claire M. Germain
Secretary Law Libraries Section



Quebec City Convention Center, August 9, 2008

Left to right:

Jules Winterton, Franck Hurinville, Holger Knudsen, Donna Scheeder, Claire Germain