

Bibliography Section Annual Report 2013

Prepared by Anders Cato, chair

Mission

The Bibliography Section furthers universal bibliographic control (UBC) by promoting standards and best practices in the production, content, arrangement, dissemination and preservation of bibliographic information related to the national output of each country.

In the context of UBC, the Section is particularly concerned with the work of national bibliographic agencies in the digital era. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of national bibliographic data [the discipline of bibliography] to library professionals in all types of libraries, publishers, distributors, retailers and end-users. Promotion of open access to national bibliographies and business models in support of this are also important issues, bearing in mind the need to balance open access/extra services.

While taking full account of technological capabilities, the Section will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies.

The Section closely associates its work and activities with that of other sections within the Library Services Division. Where appropriate, it seeks ways to cooperate with divisions and sections beyond Division III.

Membership and officers

Approx. eighty associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section. At the moment, the SC counts 20 full members and 4 corresponding members. The following nations are represented: Austria, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea; Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

In 2013 elections were held and the chair Carsten H. Andersen, Danish Bibliographic Centre was replaced by Anders Cato, BTJ, Sweden.

Anke Meyer-Heß, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, served as secretary and treasurer and Neil Wilson, British Library served as information coordinator/web editor. Both Anke Meyer and Neil Wilson were re-elected for a second term on their posts.

Activities in 2013

- **Singapore SC meetings**

Minutes from the meetings are available at:

<http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/bibliography/Documents/2013minutesscmeetings.pdf>

- **Singapore open session**

The open session was titled “*Opening up Bibliography for the Future*”. The programme showed a broad range of IFLA positions and challenges. Some regrets were expressed that we could not get more presentations on linked open data.

Papers are available on the IFLA website: <http://conference.ifla.org/past-wlic/2013/programme-and-proceedings-full-printable.htm>

- **National Bibliographies in the Digital Age: Guidance and New Directions**

It has been decided to replace the title “*National Bibliography in the Digital Age*” with “*Best Practice for National Bibliographic Agencies in the Digital Age*”, a website of which an important part will be use cases and examples of best practice. An editorial group for the new website was appointed and it will start working during the beginning of 2014. The editorial group is to set up an action plan on how the work will be carried out. Project funds were requested and granted by the PC to allow additional meetings in 2014 of the editorial group.

The website will not be a completely new one, but will use the setup of the former website on <http://www.ifla.org/national-bibliographic-agencies-in-a-digital-age/>.

- **National Bibliographic Register**

The number of entries in the register remains at 44, despite a series of e-mails to national libraries and other agencies. Members who have not yet supplied details for their national bibliographic agencies have been encouraged to do so. An online form will be set up to make it possible to contribute ones data directly to the information coordinators.

- **IFLA Namespaces Technical Group**

The section has two representatives to the IFLA Namespaces Technical Group during 2013-2014 and they are Pat Riva and Anders Cato.

ISBD Strategy

The Cataloguing Section has initiated a discussion on future ISBD strategy and has welcomed views from other sections, including the Bibliography Section. The discussion mainly focuses on the implications that the new cataloguing rules RDA will have on the bibliographic universe and how the ISBD standard should interact with those. We do not want the library world to be split up into RDA users and other users, e.g. ISBD users, but both should be seen as emanating from the same roots. There will be a discussion however on the role of ISBD in this changed reality

and on how the ISBD should be maintained and developed in the future. A survey will be carried out in the coming year by the ISBD Review Group.

IFLA WLIC 2014

For IFLA WLIC 2014 in Lyon there will be no specific open programme for the Bibliography Section. Instead the section takes part in a joint five-hour programme together with the Cataloguing Section, the Classification and Indexing Section, and the UNIMARC Core Activity entitled "*Universal Bibliographic Control in the Digital Age: Golden Opportunity or Paradise Lost?*"