

Genealogy and Local History Section

STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2012

Mission

Our mission is to be a voice for genealogy and local history information professionals in the international information community, to facilitate networking among subject specialists and libraries, archives, museums, and related societies and institutions, and to encourage the development of genealogy and local history collections and user services.

Goals

GOAL 1: Be a voice for genealogy and local history information professionals in the international information community.

(Professional Priority: supporting the role of libraries in society. Pillars: society, profession.)

Actions

- 1.1 Organize open session programmes on genealogy and local history topics and, where appropriate, do so in collaboration with other IFLA sections to reflect the relevance of these topics across the information community.
- 1.2 Develop and promote a unified response to major developments in the international information community that impact genealogy and local history library services.
- 1.3 Encourage libraries, archives, and museums to preserve and provide access to collections that contain genealogy and local history research resources.
- 1.4 Advocate for genealogy and local history in library associations and the information community.

GOAL 2: Facilitate and promote global networking among genealogy and local history professionals and between libraries, archives, museums, and educational institutions serving genealogists and family and local historians.

(Professional Priority: developing library professionals, supporting the infrastructure of library associations. Pillars: profession, members. Partnerships: libraries, archives, and museums.)

Actions

- 2.1 Promote and increase active participation in the GENLOC listserv by making it a useful source of ideas and information for genealogy and local history information professionals.
- 2.2 Broaden content of the semi-annual issues of the Section newsletter by soliciting and attracting articles from a wider range of contributors.
- 2.3 Promote GENLOC Section membership by contributing articles to key genealogy and family and local history journals and speaking to interested user and professional groups.

2.4 Promote cooperation between libraries, archives, and museums by developing professional relationships and joint projects with relevant international organizations.

2.5 Provide information to public relations media about the services and expertise of and promote related institutions that provide access to genealogy and local history research resources.

GOAL 3: Support traditional genealogy and local history services while actively promoting web access to digital content and services freely available from libraries, archives, societies, and professional associations around the world.

(Professional Priority: promoting resource sharing, developing library professionals, promoting standards, guidelines, and best practices. Pillars: society, profession.)

Actions

3.1 Identify national libraries and other significant repositories with web accessible content and services relevant to genealogy and local history research.

3.2 Contact those repositories and request permission to create links from the GENLOC website to their digital collections and services. Also invite the repositories to provide links from their websites to GENLOC.

3.3 Propose membership in IFLA and GENLOC to those repositories that agree to provide linking of websites.

3.4 Launch development of portal like functionality in the GENLOC website with the objective of creating a new tool for linking genealogy and local history researchers to significant repositories all over the world.

3.5 Begin development of web based training modules for end users of the GENLOC research portal.

GOAL 4: Proactively address data privacy and information access concerns that affect genealogy and local history collections and services.

(Professional Priority: supporting the role of libraries in society, defending principles of freedom of information. Pillars: society.)

Actions

4.1 Gather information monthly regarding current legislative efforts that affect access to information. Provide monthly updates through the GenLoc listserv and determine appropriate methods to positively affect such legislation.

4.2 Coordinate our work and responses to legislative efforts with FAIFE to ensure that concerns that affect online access to genealogy and local history information and records are adequately addressed.

4.3 Establish communications with international and national archives, libraries, and museum associations to encourage working with the proponents of data privacy in developing or addressing legislative efforts that affect the preservation and access to information for legitimate genealogical and local history purposes.