



## **Meeting Notes**

### **IFLA Standing Committee on Law Libraries**

**Saturday, August 16, 2011, 9:45 am-11:15 am, Room 101b, Convention center**

**IFLA World Library and Information Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico**

*Chair: Claire Germain*

Present : Valérie Alonzo, Marisol Floren-Romero, Henning Frankenberger, Claire Germain, Blair Kauffman, Dominique Lapierre, Robert R. Newlen, Radu D. Popa, Pascal Sanz, Donna Scheeder

Absent : Jeong-Kwon Cho, Angeline Djampou, Lilia (Lily) F. Echiverri, Elizabeth Naumczyk, Virginia C. Thomas, Pedro Padilla-Rosa

Observers : Stuart M. Basefsky, Edita Bacic, Cecile Coulibaly, Yemisi Dina, Sally Holterhoff, Teresa Miguel, Janice Modeste

#### **1. Call to order and welcome**

Claire Germain welcomed all. The members introduced themselves. Claire said that elections shall be held in 2 years. We have 16 members on the Standing Committee and the Law Libraries Section can still welcome 4 more.

#### **2. Report out on San Juan, Puerto Rico events**

##### **2.1 Reception**

Blair Kauffman, on behalf of members, emphasized the quality of the reception at the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. The presence of members of the Court, members of the legal community and leadership of IFLA have added to the solemnity of the moment. The speech of the Chief Justice Hernandez Denton was meaningful, authentic and showed a keen understanding of issues of law libraries.

Claire asked for a resolution of thanks to Pedro Padilla-Rosa and his colleague Ivette Torres (Supreme Court Librarian), for their contribution to the organization and success of the event. Members approved unanimously. A thank you gift was offered. Claire also thanked Pedro Padilla-Rosa and Dominique Lapierre for having managed to convince Ingrid Parent to attend the reception.

##### **2.2 Other programs**

Blair Kauffman mentioned the interest of the program offered by the Committee on Copyright and Other Legal Matters (CLM). Yemisi Dina seconded and wondered if the program will result in a publication. Donna Scheeder will relay the interest of members of our section to the CLM.

The program offered by our section on Puerto Rico (*Political and Constitutional Status of Puerto*

Rico) was attended by 57 participants and appreciated. The speakers were very interesting. The lectures will be on the website but are not uploaded yet.

Radu D. Popa reminded the group of the Law Libraries Section program on Thursday (*Promoting global access to law : developping an open access index for official, authenticated legal information. Part 1*) despite the scheduling conflict noted by Pascal Sanz with the program *How to Implement e-deposit legislation*.

## **2.3 Activities of the 1st meeting**

### **2.3.1 Communication**

Valerie Alonzo refers to what is considered in terms of communication :

1. Keep web site up to date
2. Publish a mid-term newsletter (including Chief Justice welcoming remarks <http://express.ifla.org/express/past/2011/5113.htm>)
3. Facebook page (next year)
4. Mid-term meeting

### **2.3.2 Actions plans**

Blair Kauffman reminded the SC that during our first meeting, members discussed and adopted the strategic plan. Members have retained Objective 1 : "To Promote access to free legal information as a basic human right" and Action 2: "Measure index with year Which Countries are leaders in making Their Laws authenticated. Promote Good Practices and feature model countries. " to guide their activities.

Radu D. Popa asked if the U.S. uniform law serve as a model. Claire Germain replied in the affirmative as well as other practices from other countries.

## **3. Review and decide preliminarily on Law Libraries programs and Program Chair and Committee for Helsinki**

Pascal Sanz wondered if we will call for papers to increase the visibility of the section and subject. Claire Germain is looking for a combination of a call for papers and an invitation to ensure the excellence of the speakers. She stated that each session lasts 2 hours. A partnership with another section allows the granting of another time slot. She reminded the SC of Ingrid Parent's theme.

Radu D. Popa proposed a continuation of the current program on Europe (*Promoting global access to law : developping an open access index for official, authenticated legal information. Part 2 Europe*). Teresa Miguel seconded. We must continue while it's fresh. 30 countries have already been identified. Donna Scheeder said it would be interesting to have a speaker on the

Baltic countries. Marisol Floren-Romero mentioned that we should also encompass developments in the legal system, not just libraries. Stuart Basefsky said that we might want to be considered by international organizations as the voice of libraries for information policy issues.

Members considered two themes for the sessions planned:

- 1) *Promoting global access to law : developing an open access index for official, authenticated legal information. Part 2 Europe :*
- 2) *Rule of law and promoting the rule of law in emerging developing system– CALL for papers*

Members want to focus on new democracies and examine their level of government transparency, with a special focus on their legal systems, e.g., Estonia, Lithuania, Finland, the Scandinavian countries, and others.

Each session will have an evaluation committee of which the following composition :

Members of the committee - Evaluation of the proposed papers for "Authentication ... (co-sponsored with government libraries):

Dominique Lapiere  
Robert R. Newlen  
Pascal Sanz

Members of the committee - Evaluation of the proposed papers for " New emerging..."

Angeline Djampou  
Radu D. Popa  
Virginia C. Thomas

- Henning Frankenberger accepted to coordinate the program. He will make contact with an Estonian relation to invite him to submit a proposed text.
- Elizabeth Naumczyk will participate in the organization of the program.
- Donna Scheeder knows Aki Hietanen (European Forum of Official Gazettes) and she will probe his interest as a speaker.
- Robert R. Newlen will make contact with a Finnish librarian who is part of the Parliamentary Libraries section.
- Claire Germain is working to find an organizer for the reception.

Donna Scheeder suggests a rapid communication of program sessions. Valerie Alonzo will verify the current mailing list.

#### **4. Review and decide preliminarily on Law Libraries programs in 2013**

Members agreed to continue the authentication project. The program would therefore be : *Promoting global access to law: developing open access index for year official, authenticated*

*legal information. Part 3 Asia.* For Donna Scheeder, this conference is an opportunity to start the recruitment for this project. This year we should make a contact.

Lilia (Lily) F. Echiverri has proposed that we meet in the Philippines. She made a proposal on the internet in the Philippines. We could co-sponsor a session with the Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE). Claire Germain agrees to take steps in that direction. Radu D. Popa suggests to be careful not to make the theme too narrow.

Blair Kauffmann, Marisol Floren-Romero and Teresa Miguel volunteered to work on guidelines regarding the authentication of primary sources of law. Donna Scheeder suggest using a Wiki for this.

## **5. Membership, recruiting and involvement**

Claire will send the membership list to all. She suggests that we recruit 1 or 2 people. Edita Bacic proposed that a standing committee member be invited as a speaker in the various national associations.

Pascal Sanz asked whether our web page was in different languages. In order to recruit more people, it is important that what we do be translated.

Volunteers for translation:

- French : Cecile Coulibaly (Côte d'ivoire); Dominique Lapierre, Valerie Alonzo
- Spanish : Marisol Floren-Romero
- German : Henning Frankenberger and people he knows.

Robert R. Newlen proposed to carry out a short video capsule to publicize the section. He asked if our sessions could also be recorded and published on the web.

## **6. Other follow up actions, timeline and responsible parties**

An action list will be sent to the members concerned after the meeting.

At the recommendation of Sally, all participants will be proactively invited to next Congress meetings.

## **7. Adjournment**

*Respectfully submitted by Dominique Lapierre, Secretary, Revised June 2012*