



## **IFLA Rare Books and Special Collections Section**

### **Annual Report 2014**

In 2014, the Professional Committee approved changing the name of the section from “Rare Books and Manuscripts” to “Rare Books and Special Collections.”

The Rare Books and Special Collections Section provides a forum for discussion and exchange of information on matters of particular concern to rare book, manuscript, and special collections librarians, including the collection, preservation, description, and use of such materials, in all types of libraries worldwide. The Section is a part of Division II: Library Collections.

#### **Membership**

Membership in the section has remained steady at about 110. We also maintain a separate mailing list of about 100 additional interested parties.

#### **Standing Committee and Officers**

In 2014 the Standing Committee currently had 19 members and 4 corresponding members representing the following countries: Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, and The Netherlands.

The officers are in the middle of their 2-year terms. They are David Farneth (Chair), Krister Östlund (Secretary), and Edwin Schroeder (Information Coordinator and Newsletter Editor). Contact information for the officers and the Standing Committee is available on the section’s website:

<http://www.ifla.org/rare-books-and-special-collections/standing-committee>

#### **Meetings**

Two business meetings were held in Lyon, and we were pleased to welcome attendees from Morocco and South Africa. Principal topics of discussion included:

- Introductions and approval of meeting minutes
- Program planning for Cape Town conference sessions
- 2015 satellite meeting in Africa

- 2014 midterm meeting in London.
- Translations of the Guidelines for Planning the Digitization of Rare Books and Special Collections
- Proposal to update the section's brochures and change them from PDF files to webpages.
- A report of the ad hoc committee studying the sections communications mechanisms
- Future goals, projects, and programs

## **Publications**

The section published a new IFLA standard: Guidelines for Planning the Digitization of Rare Books and Special Collections. It is available as a free PDF file.

<http://www.ifla.org/publications/node/8968?og=59>

## **Programs**

The section sponsored two conference sessions in Lyon, as well as tours, social events, and a post-conference satellite meeting, as follows:

### *Conference sessions*

Session 69 — Special Places for Special Collections — Library Buildings and Equipment with Rare Books and Manuscripts | 17 August 2014 | 13:45 - 15:45 | Room: Amphithéâtre | SI

Session 84 — Brave New World: Teaching and Learning Special Collections Librarianship — 18 August 2014 | 09:00 - 17:30 | Off-site at the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon

### *Special Events*

Monday, August 18. Section dinner at Brasserie Georges.

Wednesday, August 20. Afternoon visit to the printing museum in Lyon (Musée de l'imprimerie Lyon). <http://www.imprimerie.lyon.fr>

Friday, August 22. All-day library tour to Bibliothèques municipales de Grenoble. This library hosts the library of the Grande chartreuse, the first monastery of the order created at the end of the 11th century, together with a collection related to Stendhal, born in Grenoble, including some original manuscripts of his novels. Details will be announced at the business meeting. <http://www.bm-grenoble.fr>

### *Satellite Conference*

History of Librarianship. Monday- Tuesday, 25-26 August | Ecole nationale supérieure des sciences de l'Information et des bibliothèques (enssib),

The section also held a Midyear meeting in Washington DC and Baltimore, Maryland, USA on 1-2 April 2014. WE had an impressive attendance of 15 people, including guests representing educational programs in the U.S. for rare book librarians. We planned the program for the all-day off-site meeting in Lyon on the topic: Brave New World: Teaching and Learning Special Collections Librarianship. The meeting also featured tours and discussions with staff at the Library of Congress, the Folger Shakespeare Library, and tours of three libraries at Johns Hopkins University: the George Peabody Library, the main library research commons, and the Evergreen Museum and Library.

### **Ongoing Project and Initiatives**

Digitization Guidelines: We continuing to solicit more translations of the guidelines. Currently there are Spanish, Korean, Turkish, and Italian.

Communication plan: Discussions are on-going about starting a blog in place of a newsletter.

Update the List of International Organizations and Projects Related to Rare Books and Manuscripts on the section's website

Revise the Section Brochure, solicit new translations, and post them as PDF files on the website.

Discuss and document longer term goals for the section