INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ROUND TABLE

International Leads

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Volume 30 **December 2016** **Number 4**

BECAUSE OF YOU. LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

Elizabeth Cramer, IRRT Chair, adopts the United Nations Sustainability Goals as her theme.

Editor's note: Elizabeth Cramer, Chair of IRRT and Loida Garcia-Febo, Chair-Elect, attended the IFLA conference in August. Both left inspired by the United Nations's goals for sustainable world development. Following is part of their report.

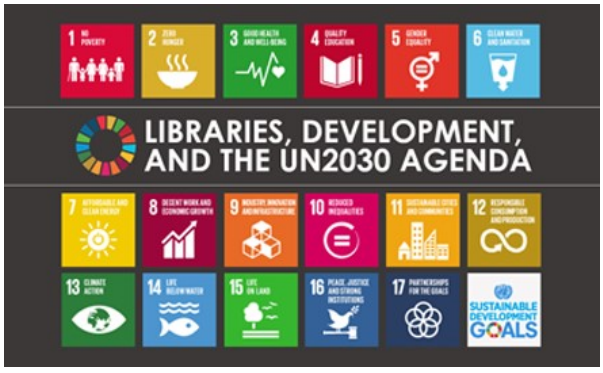
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). IFLA representatives involved in these advocacy efforts at the U.N. were Donna Scheeder, Loida Garcia-Febo, Gerald Leitner, and Stuart Hamilton. The event also included reports from colleagues in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean speaking about their Building Strong Library Associations workshops in those regions.

All types of libraries, including academic, public, school, and special, can join efforts to promote the SDGs in their countries and cities. As per the United Nations, the SDGs *are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity*.

Libraries from all over the world are already helping their communities and countries to achieve the SDGS by providing information and in many cases collaborating with agencies and organizations in efforts related to the environment, gender equality, sustainable cities, clean water, quality education, peace, justice, and strong institutions, among others. We would like to encourage libraries and library workers to continue advocating that libraries and access to information be placed on the agenda of decision makers. IFLA's ***Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries Contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda,*** is a booklet with useful examples and recommendations for policymakers demonstrating the contribution of libraries to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The materials also include a handout which librarians could adapt or distribute when meeting with decision makers.

Related to these efforts, a new multi-year programme was announced, the International Advocacy Programme (IAP). The goal is to *develop the IAP to give the library sector the capacity to create and promote a favorable policy framework for valued library services to the community, set and implement regional and national action agendas, and build advocacy skills.*

This programme kicked off in November with a regional workshop in Singapore for Asia/Oceania, and subsequent workshops in Uruguay for Latin America and the Caribbean and Pretoria for Africa. Another workshop is scheduled in December in Brussels for Europe. More workshops and events will be announced next year.



Message from the Editors

Karen Bordonaro

Gail Sacco

This issue showcases a variety of ways in which we, as librarians, continue to embrace diversity, equity, tolerance and understanding. It includes articles about the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a virtual library in India which offers access to 230,000 electronic items in 8 Indian languages. Another shows how librarians find a way to share with each other—even when an Iranian librarian is unable to present in person. And we celebrate with the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs as they celebrate their first 25 years. During this time they have provided support for capacity building efforts to librarians from places such as Armenia, Myanmar, Nepal, Tanzania, and Colombia to name just a few.

Special congratulations to our own Past Chair Robin Kear on her selection as an IFLA International Leader. We know you will enjoy and learn!

Happy Holidays and Happy Reading in 2017!

Cheers,

Gail And Karen

International Leads Web Site
http://www.ala.org/irrt/intlleads/internationalleads

Call for Submission

Do you have news about…

International library activities?

People in international librarianship?

Upcoming international conferences?

Then why not submit to International Leads?

Send your news and stories to the co-editors:
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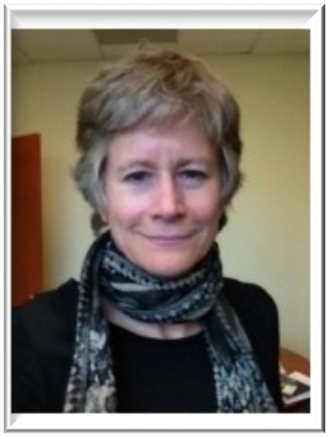
From Our Chair… Beth Cramer



ALA midwinter is next month, January 20-23, in Atlanta. For IRRT, this means we are coordinating and publicizing our ALA Annual programming, preparing the ballot for the upcoming 2017-2018 Executive Board member elections, and gearing up to make committee appointments, to be effective immediately following ALA Annual.

In preparation for the 2017 Annual Conference, IRRT has issued the calls for proposals from the International Papers Committee and the Chair's Program. Both programs will focus on the United Nations Sustainable Developments Goals (SDGs), highlighting how libraries can better the lives of all people and protect our planet. If you believe libraries can work to ensure social justice, reduce inequality, or stop global warming, please consider submitting a proposal and/or attending.

And keep a lookout for a call for submissions for international posters (deadline February 3) and the ALA Annual IRRT Pre-Conference, coming soon.

We are also grateful that the IRRT Ad-Hoc Endowment Committee continues with their efforts to increase our endowment. The Committee is planning a fund-raising drive in December to increase sustainable funding to support international programming at ALA Conferences, provide hospitality to international conference attendees, and promote interest in library issues and librarianship worldwide.

Soon our Chair-Elect, Loida Garcia-Febo will be making committee appointments for the upcoming 2017-2018 term. Be sure and visit the ALA IRRT Committees page in order to request an appointment to an ALA IRRT committee.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at ALA Midwinter in Atlanta. Enjoy your winter break and safe travels wherever life takes you.

Kind regards,

Beth Cramer

ALA ATLANTA MIDWINTER MEETING & EXHIBITS
The conversation starts here...
JANUARY 20–24, 2017
ALAAmericanLibraryAssociation

IRRT meetings and programs

Saturday, January 21, 2017

IRRT All Subcommittee Meeting*
8:30 am – 10:30 am
Location: Georgia World Congress Center- A313/A314

*IRRT Chair's Meeting: 8:30 - 9:00 am
IRRT Subcommittee meetings 9:00-10:00am
IRRT Subcommittee Reports 10:00 – 10:30am

Sunday, January 22, 2017

IRRT Executive Committee Meeting
8:30 am – 10:30 am
Location: Georgia World Congress Center- A316

IRRT Submission Deadlines

IRRT International Papers Proposals:
December 17, 2016

IRRT Chair's Program Proposals:
January 18, 2017

International Poster Session applications:
February 3, 2017

For more information contact
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BLOG

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Deepening Ties Between the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and the University of Vermont

by
Laurie Kutner and Fred Pond
Information & Instruction Services, Bailey/Howe Library
University of Vermont

This article is a follow-up to 'Forging New Library Connections Between Vermont and Peru' which appeared in the December 2015 issue (p.4) of International Leads and reported on our initial visit to Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP) where we began exploring library collaboration as an expansion of an institutional affiliation agreement between PUCP and University of Vermont.

Building relationships between university libraries

The umbrella affiliation agreement between the University of Vermont and PUCP, in effect since 2010, initially focused on the subject areas of biomedical technology and instrumentation. However, as relationships on the two campuses were built and strengthened, other collaborative opportunities beyond the original focus emerged, including with Engineering, Public Administration, and the Libraries.

In our first visit last September 2015, we highlighted use of library subject guides as tools to organize information resources in curated, focused ways. PUCP Libraries subsequently pursued this as a major initiative, and recently launched their thematic guides as a prominent link from their library home page.

Kathia Hanza, Director of PUCP Libraries, expressed interest in facilitating our return in March 2016, to focus on development of library research guides as a mechanism to present library resources in contextually meaningful ways. When we did return in March, it was with a sense of familiarity and connection that allowed us to launch into more focused dialog and work. We were coming in with an understanding of both the institutional infrastructure and the graciousness and collegiality of our Peruvian colleagues. It felt like a homecoming of sorts.

PUCP Home page Featuring Guides, English

Library Research Guides

By the time we returned to Lima, PUCP librarians had established a relationship with a vendor to manage library guides, and were already into the process of administering, conceptualizing, and creating prototypes for guides, as a pilot project.

When we did return in March, it was with a sense of familiarity and connection that allowed us to launch into more focused dialog and work.

Our first day, draft subject guides on Geography, Environment, Economics and Social Sciences were presented to us in small groups by the responsible librarians, with the intent that we would provide feedback and suggestions on both design structure and content. We were familiar with PUCP Librarian Ana Tarazona, coordinator of the library guides initiative, so we all felt comfortable offering comments and engaging in conversations.

We spent another day exclusively with the engineering librarians, reviewing library guides on computer science, electrical engineering, and telecommunications. Our library at the University of Vermont had just completed an extensive review of current guides, and in the process had created a list of best practices that was useful in conversations with the PUCP librarians.

The extent of the work that PUCP librarians had already done on their library guide development in a relatively short period of time was extremely impressive. The relationships that we had initially established and the work that we had all done getting to know each other and each other's backgrounds was, we believe, the single most important factor allowing us to comfortably engage in a high level of reflective discourse regarding their guide prototypes. In addition, the established model of presenting their draft guides to us and simultaneously to a small group of their own colleagues, complete with reflective explanations for content organization and selection, enabled a well-articulated thought process that facilitated the development of consistently high quality guides.

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Ana Tarazona, Laurie Kutner, Antenea Kun Ugarriza

Other meetings

Additionally, we were asked to take part in a wider general discussion on library trends, services, and resources, allowing us to engage with other librarians with subject expertise in Psychology, Education, Philosophy, Law, Environment, and Health Sciences. The discussion focused around collection development issues, managing workloads, and multiple ways in which to provide reference services. An interesting conversation ensued regarding the ways that our jobs are differently structured. At the University of Vermont, we work solely as Information and Instruction Librarians, so the amount of cataloging in each PUCP librarian's workload was a revelation for us. Correspondingly, our Peruvian colleagues were interested to learn the amount of focus that we have on instruction, working directly with classes and curricula, students and faculty through various forms of instruction, consultations, and reference work. As in our first visit, there was interest in the ways we offer digital reference services, especially through a chat platform.

During our visit we also met with Engineering Department faculty members, Angelo Velarde and Renzo Astorne, to discuss the ways that the University of Vermont library supports the senior Engineering capstone project. This meeting was arranged as a follow-up to interest expressed by Engineering faculty in our work during our first visit to PUCP. One faculty member, who had previously visited the University of Vermont as part of the PUCP – University of Vermont partnership, was interested in returning for another visit, in part to learn more about the capstone course approach for mechanical engineering students at the University of Vermont. University of Vermont Engineering Librarian, Graham Sherriff, works with students over the course of the academic year to instruct in finding, managing, and using literature and technical reports, patent information, and industry standards for their projects. He is actively involved in developing applied research skills through the entirety of the capstone curriculum.

Additionally, one of the faculty members was well-versed in information literacy standards, and we enjoyed a vibrant discourse about the efficacy of the ACRL Standards, the ACRL Framework, and the SCONUL models of information literacy to inform the work of telecommunications engineers.

CIBU (Congreso Internacional de Bibliotecas Universitarias) Conference

Our work at PUCP coincided with the CIBU (Congreso Internacional de Bibliotecas Universitarias) conference, a conference bringing together academic librarians from across Latin America, and hosted this year by PUCP in Lima. It was wonderful to attend this conference. The three day conference focused on a range of topics common to academic libraries across cultures, including: developing digital repositories; teaching information literacy skills and competencies, developing specialized collections; analyzing services from the user perspective; supporting the research process, knowledge creation, and scholarly communication.

Reflections and Future

PUCP Libraries have recently launched their thematic subject guides, which are prominently featured on their library home page. There are currently 32 guides, with excellent coverage across disciplines. The guides were designed using a well thought-out uniform template, with specific disciplinary adaptations. They serve as a curated entrance into library resources by subject, and were created in consultation with disciplinary faculty. The presence of these guides provides a new and user-friendly entrance into the myriad library resources that the PUCP libraries make available to their users.

We are proud to have been associated with this project from its initial idea through to its present reality. We believe that we have all gained much from the power of collaborative thinking, reflecting, and relationship-building across cultures and look forward to continued collaboration with our PUCP colleagues into the future.

Fred Pond, PUCP Campus Aside Inka Trail

THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND:

Celebrating 25 Years at the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs

By Susan M. Schnuer Associate Director,
Mortenson Center for International Programs
University Library, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The mission of the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs is to strengthen international ties among libraries and librarians worldwide for the promotion of international education, understanding, and peace. Since 1991 more than 1,300 library leaders from over 90 countries have been trained at the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - the only one of its kind in the world.

The 2013 Arabella Advisors' independent evaluation of the Center's past five years of programs in Illinois found the following::

- Over 70% of Mortenson center alumni introduced a new tool, service, or resource in their library within five years of training.
- 79% of Mortenson Center participants believe that their library is more prepared to serve their users' needs.
- 80% of alumni feel better prepared to take on leadership roles or additional responsibility in their libraries.
- 1/3 of Mortenson Center participants went on to take leadership roles in professional networks.

Many more librarians have benefitted from Mortenson Center capacity building efforts in their countries and regions, including Armenia, Bhutan, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Philippines, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Vietnam. The Center has raised more than $2.5 million in grant funds from multiple agencies to fund many of its projects.

While measurement and statistics are important, it is the words of a long-time partner - Ujala Satgoor, ast President of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), which resonate the longest.

> "The partnership between the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) and the Mortenson Centre, which dates back to 1999, contributed to redefining and strengthening a historically disparate library and information services (LIS) sector in South Africa. By concertedly addressing library leadership development and continuing professional development, this partnership also affirmed and positioned the fledgling LIASA (formed in 1997) as the acknowledged professional association in South Africa."

The Mortenson team conducting leadership training with the READ Global staff and librarians in Bhutan.

Follow the Mortenson Center staff and their activities on

@MortensonCenter Mortenson Center for International Library Programs @MortensonCenter

Opening Up Travel Restrictions to Encourage Idea Sharing at IFLA

By Rebecca L. Lubas
Associate Dean, Claremont Colleges Library-
Clairemont, California

Libraries are about opening paths to information, transcending politics.

For the 2016 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Columbus, the Bibliography Section organized a thought-provoking program, "Opening the National Bibliography: transforming access to data and building connections." The section's program committee chose papers representing perspectives from around the world, including the German National Library and National Library of Sweden.

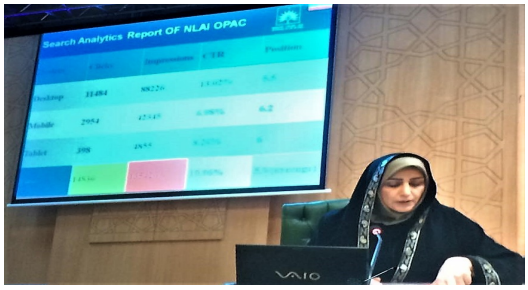
One of the papers selected was submitted by the National Library of Iran. It was a jointly authored paper discussing useful strategies for increasing discoverability of national bibliographic data using Search Engine Optimization methods. One of the authors, Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan, planned to present the paper in Columbus. Unfortunately, she was denied a visa for travel to the United States.

The Bibliography Section's program committee was highly disappointed by this outcome. However, the program committee worked quickly and proactively to ask for an exception to IFLA's in-person presentation policy, and received permission to have the paper presented via video. Although it wasn't quite the same as having the in-person participation, the section was happy to be able to include and distribute the information with this compromise. We hope we can meet Saeedeh in person at a future IFLA Congress. One of the audience members tweeted that it may have been "the most important moment" of the conference for her.

Libraries are about opening paths to information, transcending politics. The IFLA Bibliography Section hopes we did so in a very small way with our program.

Please visit the IFLA Library to read the panel papers .

Librarian Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan discusses Search Engine Optimization at the IFLA WLIC 2016 via video.



Sugamya Pustakalya: India's Largest online library for blind and print disabled

Dr. Anjali Gulati
Head, Department of Library & Information Science
Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow

The Sugamya Pustakalaya is an online platform that makes accessible content available to print-disabled people. It is the largest collection of books and a one-stop resource for the reading requirements of all those persons who due to blindness, weak eyesight or any other disability cannot read standard print. This e-library was created by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with the member organizations of Daisy Forum of India (DFI). It is powered by TCS Access and was recently launched by Union Minister of Information Technology (India) and Minister of Human Resource Development (India).

Sugamya Pustakalaya is a facilitating platform for producers of accessible content to jointly work in producing and providing accessible books to people with print disabilities. Publishers can also collaborate with them to publish their content in accessible formats. The books are available in diverse languages from various libraries across India. Sugamya Pustakalaya

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partners with international agencies such as Bookshare (the largest International online library for persons with print disabilities) and the Accessible Books Consortium. All ttitles available in Bookshare library for India can be searched and downloaded through the Sugamya Pustakalaya. In total, users can access a collection of over 230,000 books, available in eight Indian Languages.

Individuals with print disabilities need to create an account in Sugamya Pustakalaya in order to download books in various formats, request books, create wish lists, and subscribe to periodicals. Moreover, individuals have the option of taking up membership of more than one library listed on Sugamya Pustakalaya portal. However, it is not necessary to have an account to view the site, search books on the site, and browse the catalogue. Browsing options include: Authors, Categories, Language, Latest Arrival, Text book and Periodicals. Categories contain various subjects ranging from Art and Architecture to Science and Travel. Periodicals can also be searched through these categories.

Additionally, there is a 'libraries' link on the Sugamya Pustakalaya home page. It gives list of the current 30 participating libraries (DFI member organizations). Click on any library name to see more details.

Resources Recommended by IFLA in support of the the United Nations Sustainability Goals 2030

Libraries support all the SDGs and can drive progress across the entire UN 2030 Agenda. The following resources can help libraries, as key institutions, aid in achieving the Goals:

Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda 24-page booklet and 2-page handout that includes stories on how libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda from all types of libraries in many countries around the world. Use the booklet and handout as documents you can take to meetings to give to government officials or coalition partners. These materials are available in English, Spanish, French, German, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

Toolkit: Libraries and National Development Plans This toolkit will help you to advocate to your national and regional policy makers to make sure that libraries and access to information are included as part of national and regional development plans that will contribute to meeting the global 2030 Agenda. The toolkit is available in English, Spanish, French, German, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

Implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda - Library examples See how libraries around the world are supporting the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda in their national context.

Libraries make an important contribution to development.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS 2016: CONNECTIONS, COLLABORATION, AND COMMUNITY

By Beth Cramer, IRRT Chair and Loida Garcia-Febo, IRRT Chari Elect.

The 82nd International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress took place August 13-19, 2016, in Ohio's largest city and state capital, Columbus. The conference attracted over 3,200 attendees from more than 130 countries including current and past members of the IRRT Executive Board. The American Library Association (ALA) awarded 50 $1,000 scholarships to enable librarians, library staff, and library students from the United States to attend as part of the 2016 IFLA-IMLS Fellows. The 2016 IFLA National Committee, with funds donated from the North American library community, offered full fellowships to 70 IFLA Fellows-International from outside Canada and the United States and 63 IFLA Fellows-US and Canada from North America.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.

This year saw the first group of IFLA International Leaders. The program's objective is to develop leaders within IFLA that widely represent various library sectors and nationalities. The leaders, nine individuals from the United States, Egypt, the Philippines, Senegal, Latvia, Mexico, Colombia, Serbia, and China, had a busy eight-day schedule that included workshops, seminars, IFLA business meetings, and presentations. IFLA will include the leaders in international events and projects. IRRT is proud of our very own Robin Kear, IRRT Chair from 2014-2015, for being selected as a 2016 International Leader.

A Taste of American Life

The Opening Session, presented by IFLA President Donna Scheeder celebrated the state of Ohio. It was an entertaining evening with local sport announcer celebrities, commemoration of some of Ohio's significant contributions to science, and guests (both human and animal) from the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. The Exhibition Hall opened later on the same day with a party featuring food and entertainment. Tuesday's Cultural Evening featured the foods, fashion, and culture of the United States highlighting the East Coast, South, Midwest, Mountain West, and West Coast regions.

Three full-day tours of the local libraries in Columbus and environs were available to attendees. The visitors traveled by tour bus and had the opportunity to visit university, public, school, and private libraries. Additional tours were available that ventured further out, to the cities of Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio.

Baseball has been played in the United States since 1839 and the American Library Association arranged for the International Fellows to attend a Columbus Clippers minor league baseball game during the IFLA Conference. Current or past members of the IRRT Executive Board plus staff from the ALA International Relations Office accompanied a large group of Fellows to the game, where it was dime-a-dog night in a steady drizzle of rain.

Conference Meetings and Programs

IFLA President, Donna Scheeder, presented the President's Session, entitled: *Answering the Call to Action: How Might We Respond to the Challenges Presented in the IFLA Trend Report?* The panel included speakers from Mozilla, Google, Harvard, and IMLS and addressed how libraries are dealing with a constantly changing environment and recent trends that have emerged since the publication of the Trend Report in 2013.

As they do each year, the library associations from the USA hosted the *US Caucus* event where the representative IFLA Governing Board (GB) members shared news from IFLA Sections and Special Interest Groups. Our current GB members, Donna Scheeder, IFLA President, and Loida Garcia-Febo were available to answer questions. Other countries held caucuses during this period of time, and some caucuses welcomed attendees from different countries, according to language spoken, e.g. French, German, etc.

IRRT Chair-Elect, Loida Garcia-Febo is also the Chair of IFLA's Action for Development Through Libraries Programme (ALP), which presented an event featuring

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Loida Garcia-Febo

efforts by library associations to place libraries in their country's national development agenda. This initiative is coordinated with the international advocacy work carried out by IFLA officers at the United Nations to include access to information in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). IFLA representatives involved in these advocacy efforts at the U.N. were Donna Scheeder, Loida Garcia-Febo, Gerald Leitner, and Stuart Hamilton. The event also included reports from colleagues in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean speaking about their Building Strong Library Associations workshops in those regions.

A highlight of the Congress was the session hosted by IFLA New Professionals SIG entitled: *Failing Successfully in a Librarian's Career: Is a Setback an Opportunity to Grow, or Just an Unwelcome Incident on the Road to Success?* This standing-room event was attended by almost 200 people who participated in lively discussions sharing their own experiences. Many thanked the organizers for an event where they could find some answers to real-life challenges. IFLA New Professionals SIG is an initiative for and by new professionals. It was established in 2004 and is an open global network for library and information science (LIS) new professionals and supporters. You can read more on their websites: http://www.ifla.org/new-professionals and https://npsig.wordpress.com/ .

AT THE BALL GAME (Courtesy of Paul Hover)

IFLA INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

Robin Kear, IRRT Chair 2014-2015, on lower right.

CULTURAL EVENING (Courtesy of Shali Zhang)

SILENT DISCO

Unless noted, photos are courtesy of Robin Kear.

"**Libraries. Solidarity. Society.**"
A straightforward yet powerful message that resonates with a singular truth in a country where the most powerful union movement of the past century was born and went on to change the face of history. ready to bring you the most exciting and exceptional congress experience.

The next IFLA World and Information Library Congress will take place in Wroclaw, Poland from August 19-25, 2017. We hope to see you there!