

Extraordinary General Assembly: Minutes

Date: 25th September 2023: Time: 1-2pm CEST: Location: Online (Zoom)

Attending: Anna Walek (AW), 'cxpcad', Kara Jones (KJ), Sonia Gementiza, Anne Lehto, Caroline Pang, Chuck Eckman, 'Denyse', Dr Shahrzah Gholami, Gabi Wong, Gerda Winkler, Gintare Tautkeviciene, Hassana Moheiddine, Ingrida Kasperaitiene, Isabelle Eula, Jędrzej Lesniewski, Lamia Eid, Lilian Li, Louis Houle, Malgorzata Furgal, Marek Gorski, Maria Frahm-Arp, Maria Haglund, Zanele Mathe, Matt Moyo, Michael Vandenburg, Rebecca Maria Hastie, Shahrzad Gholami, Tuba Akbayturk, Vijayakumar JK, Villagrasa, Wilbert Zvakafa.

1. Welcome

AW opened the Extraordinary General Assembly.

2. Agenda and Minutes

The Agenda was approved (100% yes).

The Minutes of the General Assembly, held on March 14 2023, in Dubai UAE, were approved (21 yes, 3 abstain).

3. Board Matters

Board Matters: AW introduced the current Board members and sought the approval of the proposal for Isabelle Eula Director, Scientific Information and Library Services, (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) EPFL Library Lausanne, Switzerland to join IATUL as a new Board Member. This was approved - 24 yes, 2 abstain.

4. Future Strategy and Values (see accompanying paper, below)

KJ introduced the proposed IATUL Strategy to the meeting, outlining the development of these proposals and the suggested next steps. AW introduced the newly expressed IATUL Values and thanked those involved in these and the strategic work, before seeking approval for both elements from members.

Members were invited to vote on the following two proposals:

- a. Do you endorse the three Strategic Directions identified to guide its activities 2024-2028?
- b. Do you endorse the Board's proposal to develop a Strategic Action Plan to guide implementation of the Strategic Directions?

Both these proposals were approved, with 27 voting yes and 1 abstaining for each.

5. New IATUL website and newsletter

AW launched the new IATUL website and newsletter and encouraged members to explore the site and follow IATUL through the newsletter: [Home - IATUL](#)

IATUL Office

Zum Ehrenhain 34 | 22885 Barsbüttel | Germany

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6. Any Other Business

44th IATUL Conference

Ngā Reo o te Katoa | The voices of all

25-28 November 2024

Auckland, NZ

E koekoe te tūi, e ketekete te kākā, e kūkū te kererū.

The tūi squawks, the kākā chatters the kererū coos. It takes all kinds of people. Dr Hinemoa Elder

The conference streams aim to embrace the diversity of our profession and the work that we do in academic libraries, offering the opportunity to educate by weaving an indigenisation thread through all streams. They are:

1. Openness
2. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – Enabling success for all
3. Wānanga – Sharing lived experiences
4. Whakawhanaungatanga – Building relationships

We look forward to welcoming you next year. Here is a short video of what to expect in Aotearoa New Zealand: https://youtu.be/Atf_Af1q_5w

2024 General Assembly

The next General Assembly will be held in 2024.

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IATUL Strategy 2024-2028

IATUL Strategy 2024-2028

- I. **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT.** The IATUL Board has conducted an extensive engagement within the Board and among IATUL members at the Zurich Seminar and UAE Conference. These discussions focused on the value that IATUL brings to its members and the types of activities members would like to see IATUL promote. These discussions resulted in identification of twelve priority goals and initiatives.
- Librarians learn from techniques or practices at other libraries through a two-week to one-month work exchange program.
 - Launch pre-conference workshops to offer hands-on practical training programs and embed practical sessions and a variety of perspectives within the conference programs.
 - Offer in-person events that provide the opportunities to focus without competing commitments, thus, to get to know each other and make connections.
 - Develop a mentoring scheme to match colleagues globally to learn from each other.
 - Identify and foster strategic partnerships and collaborations with global and regional professional bodies.
 - Develop and manage the marketing and communication strategy of IATUL, including communication and media channels to be used, types and levels of activities, measures of success and budget.
 - Promote the IATUL website as a portal for academic library best practice, benchmark and measures for success, career enhancement, and continuing professional development.
 - Expand the number of Interest Groups based on current practice and emerging trends for greater participation and relevance.
 - Explore opportunities to establish regional networking groups or events within IATUL.
 - Support inclusivity and diversity of the profession with opportunities for a broad audience to engage with the library and information science community.
 - Use the expertise from Special Interest Groups to exchange the latest ideas, build well-connected networks and help solve problems.
 - Enable active participation in development opportunities by use of a variety of platforms to present practical and future-oriented training content that improves knowledge, strengthens qualifications, and improves career paths.
- II. **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:** At its September 4, 2023 meeting in Izmir, the Board endorsed a set of three Strategic Directions that will guide IATUL during the 2024-2028 period:

Strategic Direction 1 - SHARING PRACTICE

IATUL continues to build a vibrant international community of practice for university, research and academic librarians by providing international opportunities for professionals at all stages of their careers to connect and share. Active participation in a variety of forums and initiatives by our members enables exploration of current practices and trends.

Strategic Direction 2 - STRENGTHEN OUR NETWORK

As a leading global University library association, IATUL fosters professional ties that are respectful and mutually beneficial at all levels. IATUL provides a wide network of expertise for members to create connections towards shared goals. We are a global network that attracts new members representing a diversity of experience.

Strategic Direction 3 - EMPOWER OUR MEMBERS

Through development and learning opportunities, IATUL supports its members and colleagues to be well-prepared to deliver high quality services that meet university research and education needs. We

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support inclusivity and diversity of the profession with opportunities for a broad audience to engage with the library and information science community.

III. **STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN:** At its September meeting the Board also endorsed the creation of an action plan to initiate and assess progress on these Strategic Directions. This will involve collaboration including Board members, Special Interest Group (SIG) members and other IATUL member representatives.

IV. **VALUES:** Finally, the Board endorsed a set of shared values that will guide its strategies and operations. The four value sets are:

Collaboration and accountability: we facilitate the development of international collaborations among university libraries to achieve shared objectives, while aspiring to demonstrate transparency and accountability in all our activities and operations.

Freedom of expression and access to knowledge: we advocate intellectual freedom, including freedom from censorship and the preservation and protection of cultural property, and support the continuity of access to knowledge, including open scholarly communication and open science.

Innovation and leadership: we encourage projects that foster innovative approaches to library research and learning services and support the professional development of our members with a focus on leadership development.

Respect for human dignity and inclusion: we respect the diversity of customs and beliefs among our membership, recognising differences while developing the trust necessary to build common ground and foster social justice. We strive to create a culture of mutual respect and belonging within our Association and in all our activities and events.

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