



Advocacy Committee

In 2016-2017, the Advocacy Committee has focused on setting priorities and establishing relationships.

A short survey, held in December 2016, has helped us understand expectations from our membership. Core findings can be summed up as follows. Advocacy has different needs in different countries. Working with national branches and national representatives is essential, as is aiming to provide internationally relevant documentation and support. IAML needs to ensure examples of good practice are widely promoted and should work towards raising awareness of the value of music libraries for society. IAML members would like help in identifying fund raising opportunities such as grants and projects. Research and assessment of specific issues should underpin IAML's advocacy initiatives. Early focus points will definitely need to include providing guidelines and sample documentation, as well as working on promotion, visibility and awareness.

Building up a strong and effective volunteer committee takes time and commitment. We will continue to endeavour to reach our goals and become an effective advocate for music libraries, music services and the music profession on an international level, working closely with the many advocacy initiatives taking place on a national level. As a first action point, the Advocacy Committee has reached out to national branches and representatives in order to create a wide liaison support network. Responses have been very positive. We would like to thank anyone who has volunteered and are looking forward to working closely together over the coming year. The Advocacy Committee has also taken first steps in reaching out to other organisations, in particular to the IFLA Advocacy Committee.

Anna Pensaert

Advocacy Committee Chair

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