



Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAMLC)

Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)

IAML CONFERENCE

Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, 2011

Summary of comments made during the Roundtable Discussion with National Representatives, Thursday 28 July.

General

IAML has enriched my life.

I have gained so much from learning, sometimes quite informally, about what is going on around the world.

The name of our organization is too long. There was a good reason for this at one time – we wanted to be inclusive. Nowadays all libraries are also archives and documentation centres. Let us shorten our name to International Association of Music Libraries. That's what we are – music librarians of the world!

Membership

National branches should deal with the issue how to reach new members. We should share our experiences with each other.

It is difficult to recruit new members because of several reasons: Language problems, lack of interest, lack of time, bad economy etc.

We are getting older – this is a big problem for IAML.

Whether it is cheap or not [to be a member] depends on what you get for your money. We must be able to see the output of every EURO.



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Conferences

The conferences are appealing.

The conferences offer good value for money.

It is interesting and useful to participate in IAMLCs conferences.

I don't always feel that I benefit enough from the conferences that it is justified to ask my employer to be away from work for a whole week.

It might improve the quality of the papers if we were to publish conference proceedings.

Maybe we could publish the proceedings on the website accompanied with the PowerPoint presentations.

One improvement is that we now have abstracts. This was introduced at the conference in Perugia.

There should be more time for discussion during the sessions.

We should have more roundtable discussions than paper presentations during the conferences.

We could have discussions in groups divided by language.

We should do away with the national reports. Much more time should be devoted to discussions like this.

The idea of offering newcomers a mentor was very good.

Speakers must use the microphone correctly and remember to speak loudly and clearly. The Chairs should arrange rehearsals before sessions take place.

Chairs should remind speakers about the importance of speaking loudly and clearly when they are going through the technicalities before sessions. Maybe there should even be a note already in the letters of confirmation to the speakers of accepted papers.



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Communications

We should find a way to communicate during the year.

Many more languages should be represented. The Secretary General has a list of people who are willing to help with editing texts in English.

Every text can be automatically translated with tools such as Google translate.

We should use English as our common language. There should be an English version of all national websites.

The idea with editors of English texts was very good.

It is important to contribute to the content of the website and Fontes. Every national branch needs to assist.

Organization

The relationship between IAMLC – the Board – and the national branches is essential.

We should define what should be done on a national level and what could only be done on an international level.

We should concentrate on what we should do on an international level.

Every member must see his or her place in the larger IAMLC structure.

We should examine what we are doing. Even well established projects should be questioned.

We should not formalize too much.

Council is the seat of national representatives.

Council should be strong and small – one representative from each country. I envision that we sit around a big table and share ideas with each other - something less intimidating. There could be a special e-mail group for Council members. IAMLC-L is not very useful. Anybody could belong.



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It is important to have close contacts with other library associations.

IFLA is enormously big and music is not a main concern. Our strength is that we all have a common denominator.