

InULA Member Attends the World Library and Information Congress (WLIC), 88th IFLA General Conference and Assembly Rotterdam, The Netherlands

MONIQUE THREATT
Associate Librarian, Head, Media Services
Interim Librarian for Religious Studies
Herman B Wells Library
Indiana University Bloomington



Images courtesy of [IFLA WLIC](#)

Indiana University Bloomington InULA member and treasurer, Monique (Mo) Threatt, and also now Past Chair, IFLA Audiovisual and Multimedia Section (AVMS), 2021-2023, recently attended the 88th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Rotterdam is home to Europe's largest seaport. It is a bustling, diverse city full of cyclists, healthy eats, modern architecture, and tall skyscrapers. It is one of many environmentally conscious European cities situated just 36 miles south of the capital, Amsterdam. In addition to the many wondrous sites of the city, homage is paid to its most famous citizen, *Erasmus of Rotterdam* (1466-1536), "renowned and repudiated for his work on the Christian New Testament."

In case you are unfamiliar with IFLA, it "is the global voice of libraries, representing the interests of the profession and working to improve services worldwide. [They] benefit from a strong membership, a vibrant professional community, and close collaboration with partners." However, in basic layman terms, it is **the** United Nations of Librarians. Over 100 countries and thousands of librarians come together to address a variety of issues facing global galleries, libraries, archives, and museums (GLAM). This year, AVMS sponsored a joint session with IFLA's Information Technology Section titled "Artificial Reality/Virtual Reality, Meta-verse, Immersive Technologies – New Methods for Sustainable Communities in Libraries." Our five speakers from Canada, Korea, India, The Netherlands, and Singapore provided excellent presentations to showcase innovative virtual environments implemented at their institutions and libraries to nearly 1,000 attendees.

If you are looking to be a participant in global issues, then I invite you to attend one WLIC during your journey in librarianship. I truly believe you will enjoy the experience!

Zo lang,
Mo



Figure 1. Mo (IUBL) & Michele Fenton (Indiana State Library) take a break with the infamous Erasmus statue.



Figure 2. Shipping and Transport College.



Figure 3. Cycling is a way of life.



Figure 4. Mo & Michele tour the infamous Cube Houses.



Figure 5. Time for a mid-day snack with cappuccino and banana-nut bread.

Photos courtesy of Monique Threatt.