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ASIA AND OCEANIA

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SECTION NEWSLETTER



Ellen Tise | IFLA President

Message from IFLA President



IFLA ON THE MOVE!

Greetings from South Africa and IFLA! It is with great pleasure that I'm contributing to this issue of the IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter. In February 2011, I had the privilege to attend the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) Mid-term Meeting in Hong Kong and the Regional Office thought members might be interested to hear my views on the meeting and share my experience and thoughts as IFLA President over the last two years.



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Let me start with the Mid-term meeting. As indicated above, the meeting was held in Hong Kong from February 21–22, 2011, kindly hosted by the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL). IFLA's membership is global and the aim of the current Governing Board is to sustain and enlarge IFLA's membership in other parts of the world. Therefore, my travel schedule for the first quarter of this year comprised the mid-term meetings of the Regional Sections. Prior to the RSCAO meeting, I attended the Africa Section Meeting in Cameroon. The meetings of the regional sections are all flavored with energy, positive cooperation, and borderless international networking, where at the same time each meeting has its own distinct regional flavour. It was very inspiring to see how IFLA lives all over the globe and to see how cooperation with stakeholders flourishes through the regional activities.



Left to right: Ms. Ellen Tise, IFLA; Dr. Dan Dorner, IFLA RSCAO; and Mr. Jim Chang, HKCL

A seminar was organised by the Hong Kong Library Association (HKLA) to coincide with the RSCAO mid-term meeting which was well attended. Mr. Peter Sidorko, HKLA President welcomed the delegates, I spoke about IFLA's new Strategic Programmes, Dr. Dan Dorner, RSCAO Chair spoke about "The role of IFLA RSCAO and how Asian libraries can be involved," and Dr. Fawz Abdullah, President of the Lebanese Library Association shared with the audience the "IFLA Building Strong Libraries Associations Programme and the Experience of the Lebanese Library Association."

Overall, I found the two-day meeting and seminar stimulating and productive. It was an excellent opportunity to get a good overview and insight to what is happening on the ground, and to be able to share IFLA's directions and programmes directly with IFLA officers and library leaders in the region – ensuring that our strategic initiatives are aligned across IFLA regions and activities.

Let me focus now on some of the major achievements of IFLA during my Presidential term.

One of the major achievements of 2010 was the formulation and implementation of the new IFLA Strategic Plan which covers 2010–2015. With its new and appealing mission and vision statements, it clearly supports the role of IFLA as the global voice of the library and information profession for the coming years. The plan contains a wealth of potential for starting new actions and activities and for consolidating and enhancing ongoing library issues. The professional units of IFLA, the Sections, and Core Activities added many valuable priority actions to the plan, to connect concrete action with policy.

To better enable libraries and librarians to drive access to knowledge, IFLA developed for 2011–2012 five major key initiatives:

- a programme for the promotion of access to (digital) content for library users;
- a programme for IFLA International Librarianship Leadership Development;
- an outreach programme for advocacy and development of the profession;
- stronger investment in cultural heritage disaster reconstruction; and
- furthering the inclusion of multilingualism in the IFLA organisation.

These programmes are partially based on already existing activities and will lead to valuable initiatives that connect strategies, ideas, and partnerships throughout the whole IFLA community. They also connect the activities we undertake with our stakeholders and strategic partners from the international cultural, scientific, and political arena.

Other highlights include the two successful IFLA Presidential Meetings held in 2010 and 2011. The 2010 meeting was held at Stellenbosch University, South Africa in February and the 2011 one was held from April 14–15, at the National Library of The Netherlands. The theme was "Libraries driving access to knowledge: Action for Europe," and was aimed to address current issues for libraries: copyright, open access, and human rights.

IFLA was delighted to announce in November 2010 two major landmarks in the landscape of Copyright and Open Access. The Treaty for copyright exceptions and limitations for the visually impaired, proposed by the World Blind Union was moved forward, followed by issues for libraries and archives, which have been timetabled for three full days' discussion and formal consideration by Member States in 2011.

I am also extremely happy to announce that IFLA signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities in November. During our annual conference in Gothenburg in August 2010, a resolution was passed in connection with detailing IFLA's position on future activities related to the promotion of Open Access to Scholarly Literature.

I also had the opportunity to visit Taiwan from April 21–24 to discuss international library issues and attend local activities to promote my Presidential Theme "Libraries driving access to knowledge." It was a very fruitful session.

I do hope to meet many of you from the Asia and Oceania region again in person in Puerto Rico, either at the Caucus meeting of the Regional Sections on Saturday, at the Asia and Oceania Standing Committee Meeting, or at other occasions during Congress. I will be announcing the host for the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in 2013 in the Asia and Oceania region at the Closing Session on August 18, Thursday. This again will bring the focus to this important IFLA region.

I hope you find this snapshot of activities of IFLA interesting and will encourage you to do all you can to continue driving access to knowledge.

Best wishes!

ELLEN TISE
IFLA President



Dr. Dan Dorner
Chair
Regional Standing Committee for
Asia and Oceania

GREETINGS TO EVERYONE,

I hope you are all safe and well.

It has been a very difficult period for many members of our section, especially those who have suffered the tragic effects of natural disasters such as the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand, and the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. In addition, civil unrest in some regions has made life very tense for many of our members. Our thoughts are with all of you whose lives have been affected by these events.

I want to talk to you in this message about how you, as IFLA members in the Asia and Oceania region, can work with the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) to achieve common goals. At our 2011 mid-term meeting in Hong Kong on February 21–22, the RSCAO ratified the Asia and Oceania Section (AOS) Strategic Plan for 2011. As noted in the strategic plan, the mission of the RSCAO is “to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and library and information professionals within the region.” One of the goals in the plan is “to enable and encourage AOS members to take part in the work of IFLA, and work together with other IFLA Sections to achieve the AOS objectives.” Recognising the vastness of, and huge diversity within our region, the RSCAO decided as part of the Strategic Plan “to establish six regional AOS sub-committees... to implement activities and achieve the target outcomes of the Section.”

The regional sub-committees and their convenors (with their email addresses) are:

West Asia: Hilda Nassar (nassarh@aub.edu.lb);

Central Asia: Tendik G. Yermekpayeva (T.Ermekpaeva@nabr.kz);

South Asia: Sanjay Bihani (att.pni@hclondon.in or sanjaybihani@gmail.com);

East Asia: Michael Robinson (robinson@ied.edu.hk);

South East Asia: Diljit Singh (diljit@um.edu.my); and,

Oceania: Winston Roberts (winston.roberts@dia.govt.nz).

One of the Strategic Plan's key activities is to identify and support suitable “small projects” for IFLA's Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP). The ALP works in collaboration with libraries, library associations, partner organisations and library professionals in developing and emerging countries to deliver relevant, sustainable activities for equitable access to information and better library communities. The ALP provides funding for two types of projects: (1) the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) project (applications for the BSLA closed on April 1); and, (2) small projects. This year the ALP has €25,000 to support small projects, with a total available budget per project of €7,000. Applications open in May and close in October. The RSCAO regional sub-committees will assist members with ALP applications. We optimistically hope to identify three small projects from each sub-region, from which we will put forward one project per sub-region. For worthy projects that are not put forward for ALP funding, we will help the project sponsors identify possible alternative sources of funding. If you have any ideas for ALP small projects, please contact either your regional sub-committee convenor, or me. You can read more about the ALP small projects at: <http://www.ifla.org/en/alp>.

Another activity in our Strategic Plan is to increase IFLA membership in our region by thirty new members by adding five new members from each sub-region. If you would like information to pass on to prospective members about IFLA and how to join, please contact either the convenor of your regional sub-committee, the manager of the Asia and Oceania Regional Office (Keat Fong Tan: Keatfong@nlb.gov.sg), or me (dan.dorner@vuw.ac.nz).

And I am hoping to see you at the RSCAO meetings in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the annual IFLA conference.



Tan Keat Fong
Regional Manager
IFLA Regional Office for
Asia and Oceania

DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

Greetings from the Regional Office!

The couple of months after the IFLA Congress in Gothenburg last year have been filled with challenges and changes.

As Dan mentioned in his message, the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) held its annual Mid-term Meeting and half-day seminar in Hong Kong in February this year. We were privileged to have Ellen, IFLA President sit in at the meeting and also present an update from IFLA Headquarters, sharing the IFLA Strategic Plan and approach.

At the meeting, members fine-tuned the RSCAO Strategic Plan to ensure that key areas and issues in our region are addressed, and aligned with the larger IFLA Strategic Plan. Dan has provided a comprehensive overview of the key issues in his message, namely the establishment of six regional sub-committees with the aim to increase participation in IFLA; identify and increase the number of ALP small projects in our region; and increase IFLA membership in our region.

A big thank you to applicants who submitted abstracts in response to RSCAO's call for papers for the Asia and Oceania Open Session at IFLA Congress 2011. We received a total of eighteen abstracts from nine countries and had a tough time selecting due to the high quality of many abstracts. Our congratulations to the following authors on their successful submissions:

1. Chun-Yi Wang, Hao-Ren Ke and Wen-Chen Lu (Taiwan)
2. Marian S. Ramos and Christine M. Abrigo (Philippines)
3. Chutima Sacchanand (Thailand)
4. Leo F.H. Ma (Hong Kong)
5. Kimberly Parker (Switzerland)

This Mid-term Meeting was also interesting as it was RSCAO's first trial in using SKYPE at meetings. This has allowed members who are unable to fly to Hong Kong to also have a chance to participate in the meeting. Overall, concrete initiatives and fruitful exchanges made the meeting a success. We record our thanks to Mr. Michael Robinson, RSCAO member and friends from Hong Kong Central Public Library for the warm hospitality. Read more about the meeting and seminar in pages 12 and 13. The membership of Asia and Oceania Section stands at 302 members and 54 member countries as at May 31st, 2011. We hope that through your efforts and that of the regional sub-committees, the IFLA membership in our region can be increased. Dan's message indicates the convenors of the respective sub-committees. Please get in touch with them or the Regional Office should you require more information about IFLA membership.

On behalf of RSCAO and the Regional Office, we extend our congratulations to Jennefer on her re-appointment as IFLA Secretary General. We are also very grateful for the good work and heartfelt contribution of our outgoing RSCAO members: Anjali Gulati and Sanjay Kumar Bihani (India); Bughdana Hajjar (Lebanon); Hasna Askhita (Syria); Libby Cass (Fiji); M. Al Mamun (Bangladesh); and Tendik G. Yermekpayeva (Kazakhstan). Thank you very much! A very big welcome to our new members: Sonny Vikash Chandra (Fiji); Gary Gorman (Malaysia); Jaesun Lee (South Korea); Takashi Nagatsuka (Japan); Kieu Thuy Nga (Vietnam); Mya Oo (Myanmar); and Yang Tao (Hong Kong). Congratulations also to members who got re-elected: Roza A. Berdigaliev (Kazakhstan); Daniel G. Dorner (New Zealand); Mihyang Park (South Korea); Michael Robinson (Hong Kong); and Diljit Singh (Malaysia).

Ending on this happy note, I wish everyone of you success and hope to see you at the IFLA Puerto Rico Congress in August!



Petrina Ang
IFLA Regional Office for
Asia and Oceania

DEAR FRIENDS,

It's another six months down the road and amazingly, this issue would be the fifth since I started out. Since then, I had the good fortune to visit a number of libraries, each surprised and taught me in their own ways.

Earlier this year in February, I visited Hong Kong Central Library during the RSCAO Mid-term Meeting. The warm hospitality of our Hong Kong colleagues certainly helped to stave off the cold from the unexpected dip in temperature! The twelve-storey building was very modern and well-equipped. That aside, there was this something about HKCL, and about the many libraries I've visited that touched me.

The group of happy kids, bright-eyed and curious; the senior gentleman having a leisurely browse of the newspapers; students huddled in intense discussion – these tug me in a very heartwarming way.

Contrary to the perceived obsolescence of libraries in face of technology's baffling prowess, libraries continue to be well-loved, well-used social spaces. Kids, adults, senior citizens – libraries reach out to a large spectrum of the community. The community togetherness they create is invaluable. Libraries play a much more important role than just housing books. They open windows to the larger world, enriching lives. They dare you to dream.

Libraries mean a lot of things to a lot of people – and it will continue to be an enduring part of our lives. Amidst a challenging backdrop, it is the wholehearted passion in the hearts of each and every one of you that ensures the unwavering commitment to our libraries. It is also this same commitment that runs in our IFLA family.

In closing, I would like to leave you with what Richard Armour, an American poet and author thinks of libraries – and reaffirm what we stand for.

Here is where people, one frequently finds, lower their voices and raise their minds. ~ Richard Armour

WE WANT YOU, NEW PROFESSIONALS!

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Participants of NPSIG workshop "This is how we do it," BOBCATSSS 2011 (<http://www.bobcatsss2011.com/>)

Are you a Library and Information Science (LIS) student or have you just graduated from your LIS school? Do you enjoy meeting like-minded peers from all over the world on-line and on-site? Then welcome to the New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG)! Representing a new generation of LIS students and recently qualified professionals, the NPSIG is your steppingstone into the wider LIS community and the global IFLA network!

The three major goals of the NPSIG are:

- to provide a forum within IFLA for the discussion of relevant issues related to New Professionals,
- to recruit and actively involve New Professionals in the IFLA network, and
- to connect New Professionals worldwide and to whet their appetite for conferences and networking.

We are putting these goals into practice by utilizing up-to-date online tools for collaboration like our working wiki, a blog (npsig.wordpress.com) and other social media (www.facebook.com/npsig). This creates an open community that allows everyone to easily get involved and to move things forward.

In addition to our online activities, we constantly meet around the globe. The annual BOBCATSSS conferences in Europe, for example, provide a great stage for our message to be spread among students. And, of course, the IFLA Congresses bring together New Professionals from all over the world like this year in Puerto Rico. You are very welcome to join the NPSIG off-site session entitled "New Professionals beyond New Professionals – skills, needs and strategies of a new generation of LIS professionals."

IFLA needs active and committed New Professionals. We would like to encourage you to join the international LIS

community. From a very early stage of your career on you will get access to a huge network of New Professionals, you can train personal and professional skills and have the unique chance to shape the development of our profession!

If you want to know more about our activities and how to get involved, check out our blog or get directly in touch via email. We are looking very forward to fresh ideas and new NPSIG members from Asia & Oceania!



IFLA WLIC 2011 FINAL PROGRAMME

The final Programme for the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Puerto Rico is now available online!

<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/ifla-wlic-2011-final-programme>

To find out how you can register, please go to <http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/registration>

IFLA HQ NEWS

Compiled by Ms. Petrina Ang

Associate II

IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

CONGRATULATIONS!

IFLA President Ellen Tise and IFLA Governing Board Member Michael Heaney appointed to the International Advisory Committee of UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme



We are pleased to announce that UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova has appointed IFLA President Ellen Tise to the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Memory of the World Programme for a four-year period from 2011 to 2014.

IFLA Governing Board member and Chair of Division IV Michael Heaney is also appointed to the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Memory of the World Programme for a four-year period from 2011 to 2014.

Mike is currently Executive Secretary of the Bodleian Libraries in Oxford, United Kingdom.



UNESCO established the Memory of the World Programme in 1992 to "guard against collective amnesia calling upon the preservation of the valuable archive holdings and library collections all over the world ensuring their wide dissemination."



The IAC is the peak body responsible for advising UNESCO on the planning and implementation of the Programme as a whole. It comprises 14 members serving in a personal capacity chosen for their authority in the field of the safeguarding of documentary heritage. The Director-General convenes the IAC in ordinary session every two years. In particular, the IAC maintains an overview of the policy and strategy of the whole Memory of the World Programme. It therefore monitors the global progress of the Programme, considers reports from its sub-committees, from regional committees and the Secretariat, and in turn advises these bodies on their functions and responsibilities. As necessary, it revises and updates the General Guidelines of Memory of the World and it is responsible for approving additions to, or deletions from, the international Memory of the World International Register. It builds the structures of the Programme with the intent of creating a sound framework for the future maturing of Memory of the World into the status of a UNESCO Recommendation and ultimately a UNESCO Convention.

IFLA Governing Board member Helena R. Asamoah-Hassan has been a member of the IAC since 2009 and completes her term in 2014.

AFRICA ULULATES! BUHLE'S AWARD

By Philisiwe Joyce Myeza

We would like to congratulate Division V Chair, GB Member and Executive Director, Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata on being elected as the 2010 Unisa Woman of the Year at a prestigious UNISA Women's Forum (UWF) Luncheon on October 13, 2010.



The UNISA Women's Forum considered a number of portfolios of nominees with outstanding performance across all sections in the University. Criteria used by the UWF Adjudication Panel were: Leadership, Mentoring women in the workplace, Gender Activism and promotion of women's rights, Courage in adversity and Community service.

Read more about it at: <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/africa-ululates-buhles-award>.

2011 JAY JORDAN IFLA/OCLC EARLY CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FELLOWS VISIT IFLA



Left to right: Elchin Mammadov, Geanrose Lagumbay, Khumo Dibeela, Milan Vasiljević, Tian Xiaodi, Fiskani Ngwira

The IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development program prepares librarians to help libraries thrive in countries with developing economies. 2011 Fellows are from: Azerbaijan, The Philippines, Botswana, Serbia, China, and Malawi:

- Elchin Mammadov, Librarian, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Baku, Azerbaijan
- Geanrose Lagumbay, College Librarian, Cebu Eastern College, Cebu City, Philippines
- Khumo Dibeela, Assistant Librarian, Botswana College of Agriculture, Gaborone, Botswana

- Milan Vasiljević, Librarian Instructor, Belgrade City Library, Belgrade, Serbia
- Tian Xiaodi, Acquisition Librarian, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China
- Fiskani Ngwira, Library Assistant, Mzuzu University, Mzuzu, Malawi

On April 5, 2011, the 2011 Fellows visited IFLA Headquarters. They met with IFLA and OCLC colleagues at the outset of their stay in Europe which concludes next Saturday.

On April 9, 2011 they travelled to OCLC Headquarters in Dublin, Ohio for a 4-week programme in the United States.

The 2011 Jordan IFLA/OCLC Fellows were announced by Jay Jordan, OCLC President and CEO, at a news conference during the World Library and Information Congress: 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Gothenburg, Sweden.

IFLA 9TH MARKETING AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

By Christie Koontz & Dinesh Gupta

Extract from press release on April 15, 2011



The IFLA Section on Management and Marketing in collaboration with Emerald is pleased to announce the winners of the 9th IFLA International Marketing Award for 2011. First place was awarded to the German National Library of Medicine, (Cologne, Germany) for its campaign “Pilots take off – and land (as you like it.)”.

The first-place winner receives airfare, lodging, and registration for the 2011 IFLA General Conference and Council to be held this year in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and a cash award of \$1,000 (U.S.) to further the marketing efforts of the library.

Second place was awarded to Edmonton Public Library (EPL) (Edmonton, Canada), for the project “Rebranding the Edmonton Public Library – from research to implementation to results.” In the fall of 2009 the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) started an ambitious project to dramatically change the perception and image of its library system, culminating with the launch of EPL’s new brand in 2010. The new brand provides a fun, fresh and creative base from which to engage library stakeholders. Contact for the award is Tina Thomas, tthomas@epl.ca

Third place was awarded to the Georgia Institute of Technology Library (Atlanta, Georgia, USA), for the project

and radio broadcast “Lost in the Stacks.” This is the world’s first and only research library rock n’ roll radio show and airs on WREK 91.1 FM (and streams worldwide) on <http://wrek.org> every Friday at noon from Georgia Tech’s campus. Contact for the award is Ameet Doshi ameet.doshi@gatech.edu.

More details about these winning campaigns are available from Christie Koontz, Christie.Koontz@cci.fsu.edu, Information Coordinator for the jury. The first place winner will be announced officially at the IFLA press conference, time and place to be announced. Second and third place winners will be announced also and awarded with distinctions.

For this ninth award, applications were available on the IFLA Web. Altogether there were 19 applicants from 12 countries including Australia, Canada, China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Lithuania, Maldives, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, and USA. Any library, agency, or association in the world that promotes library service was eligible to receive the award.

Read more about this award at: <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/ifla-9th-marketing-award-winners-announced>

DRAFT TREATY ON COPYRIGHT EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS FOR LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

After wide consultation with librarians, representatives of Member States and other knowledgeable individuals, IFLA’s working group has developed a “Treaty on Copyright Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives”. In preparation for the work on exceptions and limitations for libraries and archives scheduled for November 2011, we offer this proposal to further informed discussion of the issues.

Read more at <http://www.ifla.org/en/publications/draft-treaty-on-copyright-exceptions-and-limitations-for-libraries-and-archives>.

LIBRARY SOCIETY OF CHINA

PROMOTES READING

Mr. Yan Xiangdong
Secretary General
Library Society of China



2011 Award Meeting for Essay Competition Award of Excellence for the Youth Reading

On April 21, the Library Society of China (LSC), together with the Open University of China (OUC), held the 2011 Award Meeting for Essay Competition Award of Excellence for the Youth Reading in rural areas. There are about 269 winners selected from the thousands of participants. The award meeting was held at the same time in 44 provincial open universities in the form of video conference.

This is one example of the“全民阅读--QUAN MIN YUE DU” (The National Reading Campaign) that LSC conducts nationwide. As a Non-governmental Organisation (NGO), the LSC takes advantages of OUC, the China Radio, and Television University as its previous name, with students of 1.4 million and its outreach teaching mechanism.

Established in 1979, the LSC consists of staff members from libraries and relevant trading and information science organisation. It is a national non-governmental, non-profit, academic organisation. The predecessor of the Library Society of China was the Chinese Library Association, which was established in 1925, and one of the founding

members of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in 1927. The mission of the Society is to guide the scientific management of the library and to advance the development of information science and technology. It is an important organisation dedicated to the improvement of libraries and library services in China. It is a member of the China Association for Science and Technology, and is a global academic organisation for the study of library science, a level consultative body of UNESCO, and a National Association Member of IFLA.

At the end of 2010, the individual members of LSC were over 10,000 and the group members were over 200. Eight branches were set up, which include special libraries branch association, HEI libraries branch association, party school libraries committee, military school libraries committee, labor union libraries committee, youth league school libraries committee, medical library committee, and middle and elementary school library committee.

MYANMAR LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: CURRENT SITUATION

Ms. Mya Oo
Director
National Library of Myanmar

The Myanmar Library Association was officially formed on December 23, 1991 with the great effort of Dr. Thaw Kaung, former Chief Librarian of the Universities Central Library and Head of the Faculty of the Library and Information Science at the Yangon University. The Association comprises library professionals who have attained the Diploma and Master Degree in Library and Information Science from Yangon University and are working in the institutions under various ministries. Senior librarians and former Senior Officers are patrons of the Association, providing guidance on the activities of the Association. There are over 300 diploma holders in library and information science in the Association. There are three categories of membership – reserved member, ordinary member, and life member.

Since its establishment, the Association has organised educational programmes for Myanmar's librarians and library professionals working in the libraries. The Association also organises talks by foreign librarians and information specialists as well as Myanmar's well-known scholars and senior librarians.

Encouraged by the government, the Association held its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 1998 at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Yangon University. It was attended by the Secretary of the State, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, librarians, and library professionals. Research papers on the development of Myanmar librarians and library functions were presented at the AGM. Thereafter, the Association holds regular AGMs not only to meet the library-degree holders but also to share their experience and evaluate the development and functions of the Association.

Fifteen executives of the Association meet monthly and discuss the progress of each sector to consider the functions to be developed. There are nine sectors responsible for the development of library professionals such as education, information, international relations, finance, and management.



Lecture by the Librarian from the Yangon University Library for the Basic Training Course

The information sector issues quarterly newsletters for the Association. There are twenty-three issues on news such as the Myanmar libraries, biographies of senior librarians, knowledge on library functions and activities in local and abroad, and current trends of libraries in the world. The newsletters serve to encourage members to contribute to the development of library profession in Myanmar.

The education team has organised short-term courses on library and information studies for the private library staff who are currently working at the libraries without a Diploma in library science, and for those who are interested in this subject. Librarians from various departments under the different ministries offer lectures at the short courses under the flagship of the Association. Though the period is short, the participants are provided full knowledge on library science and encouraged to view the library profession as one useful to society. Inspired students can further their interest through the Diploma course that is available at the Yangon University.

In charge of the international relations sector of the Association for 2010–2012, I was required to make contact with other library associations and the IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania. Fortunately, I made contact with Keat Fong and Petrina from the IFLA Regional Office to link to IFLA. With their encouragement and kind cooperation, I was connected to a number of libraries in Asia and the Pacific region. Through this effort, we will work towards having the National Library of Myanmar re-join to IFLA. As the library profession believes in the spirit of helping, the Association will expand its activities throughout the country with its motto of "Helping Those Who Seek Knowledge."



Library visit to the university libraries by participants of the Basic Training Course

MEMBERS OF IFLA REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA SECTION, 2007-2013

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First term: 2007-2011



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First term: 2003-2007
Second term: 2007-2011



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First term: 2007-2011

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First term: 2009-2013



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First term: 2007-2011



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IFLA REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA (RSCAO) MID-TERM MEETING 2011 IN HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 21–22, 2011

Dr. Chihfeng P. Lin
Secretary
IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

IFLA RSCAO held its 2011 Mid-term Meeting and half-day seminar in the busy and dynamic city of Hong Kong from February 21–22. Through the efforts of Michael Robinson, RSCAO member and generously hosted by the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL), the meeting was fruitful with the many initiatives and areas covered. We were privileged to have with us at the meeting Ms. Ellen Tise, IFLA President. The meeting was well attended by the following:

Dan Dörner (Chair), Chihfeng P. Lin (Secretary), Fawz Abdallah (Member); Jayshree Mamtora (Member); Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad (Member); Diljit Singh (Member); Premila Gamage (Member); Aree Cheunwattana (Corresponding Member), Shawky Salem (Adviser); Tan Keat Fong (Regional Office); Petrina Ang (Regional Office); and Winston Roberts (Member); Sanjay K Bihani (Member), and Roza Berdigaliyeva (Member) via remote conferencing on Skype.

It was the first time that RSCAO employed Skype in its meetings. This has turned out rather good results with three RSCAO members in New Zealand, United Kingdom and Kazakhstan being able to partake in the meeting at selected timings. A post-meeting evaluation of this has been done, with feedback incorporated to improve the next remote conferencing. We record our thanks to the IT team at HKCL and Michael for making this possible.

In addition to reports from Chair, Information Coordinator and the Regional Office, below captures highlights of the major discussion areas of the meeting:

IFLA Headquarters

Ellen updated RSCAO on IFLA programmes and directions, highlighting IFLA's vision statement in the IFLA Strategic Plan 2010–2015: IFLA is the trusted global voice of the library and information community, and drives equitable access to information and knowledge for all. Another area covered is the IFLA Strategic Approach:

1. A holistic and integrated approach to IFLA's roles and activities and planning;
2. President's theme and programme;
3. Raising awareness of IFLA and what it stands for;
4. Building fruitful and mutually beneficial partnerships;
5. Strengthening IFLA as an organisation; and
6. Aligning the strategic and professional approaches.



RSCAO members were hosted to a tour of the HKCL

Ellen also stressed the five key initiatives IFLA will develop for 2011–2012 to better enable libraries and librarians to drive access to knowledge:

1. A programme for the promotion of access to (digital) content for library users;
2. A programme for IFLA International Librarianship Leadership Development;
3. An outreach programme for advocacy and development of the profession;
4. Stronger investment in cultural heritage disaster reconstruction; and
5. And furthering the inclusion of multilingualism in the IFLA organisation.

Strongly encouraging members to attend the IFLA President's Programme, Ellen emphasised that these programmes will lead to valuable initiatives that connect strategies, ideas, and partnerships throughout the whole IFLA community.

IFLA RSCAO Strategic Plan

RSCAO Strategic Plan was further fine-tuned with inputs from Ellen to ensure its alignment with IFLA Strategic plan in the larger scheme of things. Dan has focused, in his message in this issue on what members can do to support RSCAO's strategic directions below to achieve common goals and RSCAO's mission to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and library and information professionals within the region. The contact details of the six regional sub-committees are also provided in his message. RSCAO's four strategic directions are:

1. Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information;
2. Building the strategic capacity of IFLA and that of its members;

3. Transforming the profile and the standing of the profession; and
4. Representing the interests of IFLA's members and their users throughout the world.

ALP Small Projects and Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) Programme

Regional Office collated the ALP Project 2011 applications for Asia and Oceania and sent them to ALP and RSCAO Chair on October 8, 2010. The applications are from Bangladesh: India: Occupied Palestinian Territories, with two coming from Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Reporting on behalf of ALP, Michael updated members that the call for new BSLA applications is now open, with a closing date of April 1, 2011. ALP urges RSCAO members to disseminate the information to their networks to encourage suitable applicants. The criteria in 2011 focuses on identifying associations that are ready and able to implement the BSLA programme; that have a foundation to begin the programme from; and a core group of professionals and organisations supporting the association. More information on submission and guidelines are available on the website: <http://www.ifla.org/en/alp/project-applications>. In addition, there was also a call for Core Trainers to deliver workshops based on IFLA content. Anyone interested in the training of trainers should contact Fiona Bradley (fiona.bradley@ifla.org).

Asia and Oceania Call for Papers for 77th IFLA WLIC, Puerto Rico, San Juan, August 13–18, 2011

Regional Office collated eighteen abstract submissions from nine countries in response to the call for papers Received for Asia and Oceania Call for Papers for 77th IFLA WLIC, Puerto Rico, San Juan, August 13–18, 2011. The theme is "Moving into the future - a new vision for libraries in Asia and Oceania." It was a challenge for RSCAO members at the Mid-term Meeting to select five from the high-quality submissions received. The five selected submissions are:

1. Implementation and Evaluation of Mobile Library Services – A Taiwan Experience
Chun-Yi Wang, Hao-Ren Ke and Wen-Chen Lu (Taiwan)
2. Reference 2.0 in action: An Evaluation of the Digital Reference Services in Selected Philippine Academic Libraries Marian
S. Ramos and Christine M. Abrigo (Philippines)
3. Development of Strategies to Create Information Literate Students: An Experience of Thailand
Chutima Sacchanand (Thailand)
4. Current Status and Future Prospects: A Survey of the Application of Web 2.0 in Hong Kong School Libraries
Leo F.H. Ma (Hong Kong)
5. Building an information culture virtually in Asia and Oceania
Kimberly Parker (Switzerland)

Asia and Oceania Section Membership and Subscribers to RSCAO-L

Regional Office updated that the membership for Asia and Oceania stands at 323 members and 57 member countries as at November 30, 2010. For the period June 1–30 November 30, there were twenty-nine new members



Use of Skype with RSCAO members

from Australia, Bangladesh, China, Thailand, Iraq, Iran, Indonesia, Philippines, Pakistan, United States and Vietnam. Regional Office has sent ten copies of IFLA membership promotion flyers with the newsletter to each of the 323 members in support of IFLA membership recruitment in Asia and Oceania.

Hilda Nassar, Information Coordinator, reported that the current number of RSCAO subscribers is 286. The bounced e-mail rate is 0.6%.

Half-day Seminar: Strategies and Initiatives for Libraries and Library Associations in Asia and Oceania

Jointly hosted by RSCAO and Hong Kong Library Association (HKLA), the half-day seminar, with a panel of speakers led by Ellen outlined strategies and projects and how they may affect libraries and the professional development of librarians locally and regionally. The speakers and their respective topics are as follows:



Speakers at the half-day seminar with our Hong Kong colleagues

New IFLA Programs and Strategic Directions

Ms Ellen Tise, President, International Federation of Library Associations.

The role of IFLA RSCAO and how Asian libraries can be involved Dr. Dan Dorner, Chair, IFLA Regional Standing Committee, Asia and Oceania.

The IFLA Building Strong Library Associations Program and the experience of the Lebanese Library Association Professor Fawz Abdullah, President, Lebanese Library Association.

RSCAO members also had the opportunity to visit the HKLC. The warm hospitality of our colleagues in HKCL and HKLA helped to make the meeting a successful and enjoyable one.

Hong Kong



HONG KONG CENTRAL LIBRARY

Dr. Aree Cheunwattana

Assistant Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, Faculty of Humanities, Srinakharinwirot University
Corresponding Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

As member of the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania Section (RSCAO), I had the opportunity to attend the RSCAO Mid-term meeting held in Hong Kong on February 21–22, 2011. Mr. Michael Robinson, the RSCAO member from Hong Kong, was a gracious host who efficiently organised the meeting in the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL). During two days, apart from a very warm welcome, we were provided with facilities and comfort which ensured a fruitful meeting. On the second day, a library tour was arranged so we had a good opportunity to learn how the HKCL offers first-rate modern library services to the citizens.

HKCL is the biggest library facility among the Hong Kong Public Libraries System. Its twelve-storey high building occupies a floor area of 33,800 square meters. It is designed as an intelligent building, built on a network flooring system to provide flexibility for the supply of power, telecommunication and to accommodate possible change and expansion. The design also reflects the concept of knowledge. The arch-shaped entrance at the front elevation represents the Gate of Knowledge while the different shapes of graphics denote different meanings—the circle stands for the sky, the square for the land, and the triangle for accumulation of knowledge. In front of the building, there is a colorful garden decorated with a reading sculpture of a boy and a girl sitting back-to-back with books in their hands.

According to the Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries 2009–2018, the Central Library is guided by a vision “to provide quality public library services commensurate with Hong Kong’s development as a world-class city.” Among the key strategies are to provide an accessible, user-friendly and technology enabled network of public libraries to serve all Hong Kong residents; to support and encourage lifelong learning through a wide range of collections and services; to bring the culture of reading to different levels of the community, to provide ready access to global information and knowledge; and to bring culture to the community.

In addition to print, multimedia resources comprising over 2 million items of digitized images and documents, such as electronic books, old newspapers, photographs, map and manuscripts, are also provided through Multimedia Information System. Several databases of electronic resources are available for access via internet both within the library and at home by library card holders.

The Central Library caters for special needs of the disabled in all aspects. The library building is designed with needed facilities for disabled users. The collection of large print, Braille materials and

audio books are provided. Assistive technology such as computer software and equipment to enable the visually impaired to browse the library materials and the internet are parts of this special service. Reading aids such as colour image magnifiers, reading machines, Cantonese and English voice synthesizer software, and computer screen magnification system are also included.

Academic and cultural activities are organised on regular basis. These include exhibitions, book displays,

storytelling workshops, reading program activities, IT education-computer workshop, public lectures, literary talks, subject talk series, library user education sessions, and library guided tours.

With such rich collections and excellent services, I am not surprised to see the HKCL so well used. Looking around the library, you will always see a busy place where people are engaged in seeking knowledge or cultivating themselves with a myriad of services. I saw teachers bringing their students to the library, parents watching their children playing toys, elderly people whiling their time on newspapers and magazines, students surfing the internet, and art lovers viewing the paintings on exhibit. The library elevators seemed to be working nonstop to take users to their destinations. And the library cafeteria was also making good business. It is a delightful sight! It shows that this library is a popular place where people love to visit. Any visitor or user would agree that the library’s goal in enriching knowledge and support lifelong learning has been successfully achieved.



“ to provide quality public library services commensurate with Hong Kong’s development as a world-class city. ”



*References: Hong Kong Central Library.
Retrieved from http://www.hkpl.gov.hk/english/aboutus/aboutus_hkcl/aboutus_hkcl_intro/aboutus_hkcl_intro.html
Hong Kong Central Library.
We enrich knowledge and support lifelong learning.
(User Guide)*

THE SECOND WORLD

CHINESE TEACHER LIBRARIANS' FORUM

Mr. Leo F.H. Ma

Head

New Asia College Ch'ien Mu Library
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The aim of the World Chinese Teacher Librarians' Forum is to bring together Chinese teacher librarians to discuss library issues and experiences from working in school libraries. Initiated by Ms. Angel Leung Yuet Ha, current President of the Hong Kong Teacher-Librarians' Association and former Director for East Asia Region of the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL), the First World Chinese Teacher Librarians' Forum was held successfully in Jiangsu, China, on December 27–30, 2008 with 300 participants.

Co-organised by the Taiwan Teacher Librarians' Association, the Library Society of Jiangsu Province, China, the Hong Kong Teacher-Librarians' Association, the Macau Library Association, and the Multi Edu-Cultural Exchange Organisation, Malaysia, the Second World Chinese Teacher Librarians' Forum was held in Tai Chung, Taiwan, on December 26–28, 2010. The Forum was very well attended by 150 representatives from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, and Malaysia.

After making his opening remarks, Dr. Diljit Singh, Chair of IASL and Member of IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania, delivered a keynote speech introducing the IASL to the participants and encouraging deeper collaboration among teacher librarians from different parts of the world for the benefit of our children in the future. In her keynote speech, Prof. Chao-Chen Chen, University Librarian of the National Taiwan Normal University, analysed the

results of Taiwanese students in two international reading comparison tests, namely the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) and the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), and discussed the role of the school librarian in promoting reading to students,

enhancing information literacy of teachers and students, and cultivating multicultural awareness and understanding in schools. The third keynote speech by Prof. Mei-Hwa Yang of the National Chengchi University used the notion of "Omnimedia" to denote a whole range of concepts, such as information literacy, transliteracy, e-learning, and Web 2.0 in order to identify the essential attributes of teacher librarians in the 21st century.

In addition to the three keynote speeches, the Forum was packed with sixteen presentations and papers covering a wide variety of topics including the promotion of reading and writing activities in school libraries, the development of school libraries in different places, the enhancement of reader services in school libraries, the application of Web 2.0 in school libraries, and other practical issues related to the provision of school library services. The Forum is an excellent opportunity for Chinese teacher librarians to build up personal networks and to share experience with colleagues in the region.



Participants of the the Second World Chinese Teacher Librarians' Forum



Dr. Diljit Singh delivering his keynote speech



Mr. Leo F. H. Ma making his presentation

THE HONG KONG EDUCATION BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE

A FREE ONLINE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON HONG KONG EDUCATION RESEARCH

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The Hong Kong Education Bibliographic Database is a new free online bibliographic database which covers research and publishing on education and related disciplines in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Education Bibliographic Database has been developed by The Hong Kong Institute of Education Library (<http://www.lib.ied.edu.hk/>) as one of its Hong Kong Education Heritage projects* and was officially launched on January 26, 2011. Building on three previous bibliographic projects related to Hong Kong educational research, the Bibliographic Database consists of over 10,000 bibliographic citations of research works including books and book chapters, articles from periodicals, dissertations or theses, conference papers, research reports and other relevant materials, dating back as far as 1946. The Bibliographic Database can be accessed at <http://bibliography.ied.edu.hk/>.

A bi-lingual search interface in English and Chinese is provided. Users can easily find what they need by searching author, title, keyword, and other search terms, or by browsing a hierarchical educational classification tree. Results are clustered by facets of subjects, user tags, time period, and language, allowing users to find what they need quickly and easily. Standard email, save, printing options,

and direct export functions to bibliographic management software are also included.

The database is on open access, and we welcome feedback and suggestions for further improvement. For further information, please visit the above web site or contact us by sending an email to bibliography@ied.edu.hk.

* *The Hong Kong Education Heritage projects which were initiated by the Hong Kong Institute of Education (<http://www.ied.edu.hk/>) to foster research into education in Hong Kong, which also includes the establishment of the Hong Kong Museum of Education (<http://www.museum.ied.edu.hk/>), the development of an image database of artefacts illustrating Hong Kong's educational history, and the development of an oral history archive of notable Hong Kong educators.*

The Hong Kong Education Bibliographic Database is a free online annotated bibliography covering research works on Hong Kong education at <http://bibliography.ied.edu.hk/>

ALP NEWS

Ms. Fiona Bradley
ALP Programme Coordinator
IFLA Headquarters



Ms. Premila Gamage, BSLA Trainer with Dr. Fawz Abadallah, LLA President

Since December, a workshop to develop regional trainers for the IFLA Building Strong Library Associations programme (BSLA) has taken place, and a new ALP small project has commenced in the Asia and Oceania region.

BUILDING STRONG LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

The first regional workshop to train new trainers for the BSLA programme was held at IFLA Headquarters from March 22-24. Organised in cooperation with the IFLA-CASL (Centre for Arabic Speaking Libraries), the workshop brought together new trainers representing library associations from four countries in the Arab-speaking region. Participants from two countries within the Asia and Oceania region, Palestine and Lebanon attended.

The workshop piloted a new train-the-trainers module which builds skills in facilitation, training small groups, planning and evaluating training, and BSLA content. The materials were developed by Gillian Hallam from Australia, who is also a BSLA core trainer in Ukraine. After completing the three-day workshop, the new trainers are accredited to deliver presentations or train others in their own library community or within their region. The module is flexible, and can be adapted to accredit trainers in any of IFLA's training packages, including those developed by FAIFE. The module can also be delivered as part of other train-the-trainer activities, such as ALP small projects.

Following this first regional trainers workshop, further workshops will be held in other regions around the world to develop new trainers for BSLA.

BSLA PROJECT IN LEBANON

The first BSLA workshop in Lebanon was held in Beirut, Lebanon from January 27-30, 2011. The second workshop will be held in June. The Lebanese Library Association (LLA) has also participated in outreach activities, such as the Asia and Oceania Section's Mid-term meeting in Hong Kong in February 2011 where LLA President, Fawz Abdullah made a presentation about the project.

IFLA ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM

All BSLA modules are now available to members via the IFLA Online Learning Platform. Translations of materials are also being added as they become available, including materials in Arabic, Spanish, and French.

2011 ALP SMALL PROJECTS

A project on Health Information Literacy in Bangladesh was selected for ALP small projects in 2011. The project's objectives are to:

1. Create awareness of health information literacy among students, researchers, faculty and library and information professionals,
2. Provide hands on training about when and why health information is needed, where to find that information, how to evaluate, communicate and use health information in an ethical and legal manner,
3. Develop critical thinkers and independent learners, as well as training resources for quality education, research, and capacity building among the stakeholders at other academic institutions.

2012 ALP SMALL PROJECTS

A call for small projects in 2012 has been made in May. Potential applicants are requested to check the IFLA website for full guidelines, deadlines, and application forms.



BUILDING A STRONG LEBANESE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Ms. Bughdana Ch. Hajjar

Instructor/Librarian, Board Member, Lebanese Library Association
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania



Board members of the Lebanese Library Association, decision makers, and stakeholders with trainer Ms. Premila Gamage (third from right)

For more than thirty years, Lebanon, a beautiful small country in the Middle East, has been enduring political and social economical strains among other challenges.

The effect on institutions, private and governmental, was drastic and the Lebanese Library Association (LLA) was equally affected.

Even though Lebanon is a country open to all type of thoughts, innovations, and development, the LLA was functioning in an unhealthy environment. Board members were investing tremendous efforts with no visibility, membership was decreasing, and the recruitment of young and fresh blood was failing.

Building Strong Library Association (BSLA) programme created by IFLA ALP was as if, tailored to suit LLA's condition.

Quickly library professionals and LLA Board members joined efforts and applied for the BSLA programme. Our enthusiasm and well-thought proposal were subsequently rewarded with ALP's acceptance of our application. Ms. Fiona Bradley, ALP Programme Coordinator, visited Lebanon in June 24–25, 2010. A good country plan was drafted listing four goals:

1. Governance and structure,
2. Member involvement,
3. Communication, and
4. Advocacy.

IFLA and LLA signed a project agreement which stipulated clearly the roles and responsibilities of the in-country facilitator (Ms. Randa Chidiac), IFLA ALP coordinator (Ms. Fiona Bradley,) and the trainer(s).

Two modules "Strategic Relationships" and "Building your Library Association" were delivered by the wonderful and highly qualified trainer, Ms. Premila Gamage from January 27–30, 2011.

Two more modules will be delivered and the programme will include review meetings, and will conclude with a BSLA mini congress and a final report, scheduled tentatively for the first quarter of 2012.

As expressed by Randa, our in-country facilitator, "the strength and continuity of any association come from its members' ambition and dedication."

Attendees which included Board members, stakeholders, and decision makers were determined to rise up to the IFLA ALP challenge in making this programme a success.

After attending the workshop in January, I had the opportunity to attend a Train-the-Trainer workshop held in the Netherlands in the third week of March 2011. Before attending I read through all BSLA modules and found that they serve to build Associations as well as personalities. A big thank you to the creative minds behind the inception of an innovative and professional programme!

BOOK EXCHANGE 2011

Mr. Koh Chee Boon

Librarian
Deputy Project Manager for Book Exchange 2011
National Library Board Singapore



Book Exchange participants at the Plaza, National Library Building



Children selecting books at the Book Exchange

Book lovers in Singapore did their part for the environment while indulging in their love for reading at the National Library Board's Book Exchange event. Held for the third successive year, this event allows book lovers to exchange their used books with each other. Apart from being an economical way to update one's book collection, the Book Exchange helps to save the environment by minimising wastage.

of 3,700 people were in attendance. In all, a total of 7,294 participants attended the event and 77,702 books were exchanged in the process; an increase of about 6 percent in the total number of books exchanged and an 11 percent increase in the number of participants compared to the previous year!

The event's success was due in no small part to the support received from publishers and organisations such as the Taxi Sifu Reading Club, School Reading Club, NUS Unipress, Keppel Land amongst others who contributed about 6,000 books to the event. In addition, BookCross@SG had contributed an additional 5,000 books for the mass exchange. The effort and hard work from both staff and volunteers also made the event a positive one for participants.

Some positive feedback received from participants on the Book Exchange indicated that the event was a good and meaningful way of recycling books as they end up with other book lovers as well as having the opportunity of building up one's personal collection with the books that participants like. Participants have also expressed that they look forward to the Book Exchange event next year.

This year's event was held on April 16, 2011 at The Plaza, National Library Building with Keppel Land and Public Utilities Board (PUB) as the main event sponsors. Participants started queuing from as early as 6.30am that day and within the first three hours of the event, a record

DHIVEHI DIGITAL LIBRARY CREATION: A MILESTONE

Ms. Aminath Riyaz

Chief Librarian, MNU Library, Maldives National University, Malé, MALDIVES

Ms. Fathmath Nashfa

Assistant Librarian, MNU Library, Maldives National University, Malé, MALDIVES

Dhivehi – the locality and the language of the Maldives – is celebrated with this newly created digital library by the Maldives National University (MNU) Library. The most prominent literary work of Dhivehin (locals of the Maldives) is the “Faithoora” journal that has been in circulation since 1979. The monthly journal is highly referred to by local researchers and students from all levels of education. The journal is in Dhivehi language and for the past twenty-two years it was available only in its print form.

The MNU Library in affiliation with the Maldives Greenstone support Network (MGN), trialed the creation of a digital library of the Faithoora using Greenstone open source software. With this project, the MGN, in cooperation with University of Waikato, has also introduced Dhivehi language interface for Greenstone software (see Figure 1).

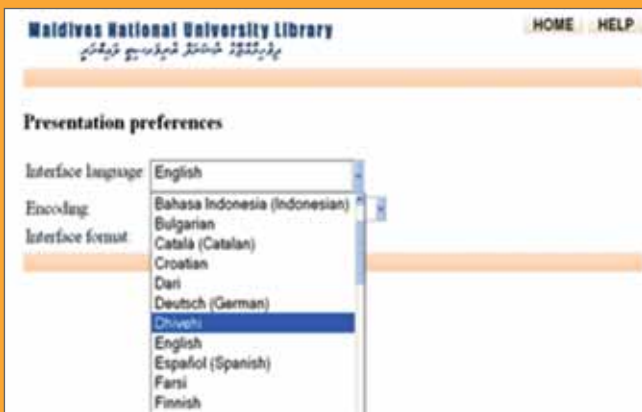


Figure 1: The language for the interface can be adjusted to the preferred language

The Faithoora Digital Library is hosted on the MNU local network for further trialling (it is available at <http://192.168.8.164/gsd/cgi-bin/library.cgi>). This has facilitated access to a much demanded publication which prior to this was available in print without any indexing or abstracting of specific topics. This project also facilitates access to this local publication by rural campuses which do not have physical access to the item, due to their remoteness and difficulty in transport infrastructure for regular commuting to Malé, the capital of Maldives where the MNU’s main Library is located. The MGN is now further exploring copyright clearance and accessibility options to make it publically available to the wider community through a Public Internet Protocol (IP).

At present, the digital library can be browsed by title and date as seen in Figure 2. It can be searched based on the title of the articles as seen in Figure 3. While full text is available, it is not searchable at present due to issues with optical character recognition of Dhivehi script on scanned documents. This enhancement is marked as the next phase of the MNU Library’s DL project for Faithoora. The creation of this collection has facilitated in the creation of other much needed Digital Library collections of local material.



Figure 2: “Title” view of the Digital Library which displays all the titles in the library (displayed in the English language interface)



Figure 3: Search result for the term “dhivehiraajje” (Maldives) – (displayed in the Dhivehi (local) language interface)

SUPPORTING AFFLICTED PEOPLE AND LIBRARIES OF THE TOHOKU- PACIFIC OCEAN EARTHQUAKE

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OVERVIEW OF THE 2011 TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI

On March 11, 2011, the Tohoku (north-east) region of Japan was hit by an earthquake of 9.0 magnitude and subsequent tsunami. The disaster affected library communities in north-eastern Japan. Tokyo and the western parts of Japan, however, have not sustained significant damage from the jolts. The Tokyo Main Library of the National Diet Library, apart from books scattered in the stacks, has been operating more or less normally from March 15 on.

The following is the general outline of the aftermath reported as of April 7:

LIBRARIES AFFECTED

The prefectural libraries of Miyagi and Fukushima reported damage suffered by public libraries in these prefectures, such as broken windows, cracked buildings or hit by a tsunami. The prefectural libraries of Iwate was closed till March 31, while the one in Miyagi will be closed by the middle of May, and those in Fukushima and Ibaraki have been forced to shut down regular service for some time in the future.

University libraries such as those of Tohoku University and Tohoku Gakuin University have announced closure until late April. Some, like those in Miyagi University of Education and the University of Aizu, have no prospect of reopening in sight.

In addition, the planned electricities outage effected in the Kanto region forced the National Institute of Informatics to suspend its online services and many libraries to cut opening hours or to close altogether.

ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS BY LIBRARIANS

savelibrary@wiki (now transferred to saveMlak@wiki) was created on March 12 so that librarians around Japan can share information on damaged libraries and see what sort of support they need.

EARTHQUAKE - RELATED INFORMATION OFFERED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Libraries such as prefectural ones in Shizuoka and Tottori have uploaded web pages with earthquake-related information. Those in Saga and Fukuoka mounted exhibitions of earthquake-related materials.

Approach for providing earthquake disaster-related documents and preserving materials

The followings are the approaches of library-related institutions in Japan.

- Japan Library Association (JLA): Related documents of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake are provided on the website.
- Nippon Association for Librarianship (NAL): Documents on disaster recovery and crisis management for libraries are provided on the website.
- Network for Historical Materials: Calling for preservation of historical materials which might be lost in the chaos of the disaster.
- Film Preservation Society: Consultation services are open in cooperation with professional companies on treatment of original audio- visual recording media.
- Agency for Cultural Affairs: "Project for rescuing cultural heritage damaged by Tohoku-Pacific Ocean Earthquake" is going to be set up to urgently preserve affected movable cultural assets and to prevent disposition and dissipation of precious cultural assets.

The National Diet Library provides a website on information and links on the restoration of materials held by libraries and archives.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION SERVICE FOR STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS IN THE AFFECTED REGION

University libraries of Kyushu University, Kagoshima University and Hokkaido University and the University of Tokyo Library System offer services more or less on a par with those for their own students and staff to those who hail from the vicinities of said universities and are belonging to the universities in affected the region.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION SERVICE FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND RESEARCHERS AT/OF DISASTER AREA

Databases and e-books on medical literature are provided for healthcare professionals working in the afflicted area. The following are the actions of library community.

- Japan Medical Library Association: Starting to provide medical literature free, with the cooperation of publishers, to universities, hospitals, staff of medical related institutions and healthcare professionals conducting rescue and reconstruction activities.
- Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST): Providing database on science and technological

documents for free to institutions and organizations related to disaster response (until June 30, 2011).

- University of Tokyo Library and Kyoto University Library Network: Academic databases and electronic journals are provided without charge to researchers and healthcare professionals in the afflicted areas with the cooperation of publishers (until April 30, 2011).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT SUPPLY OF LIBRARIES

The JLA announced “Request for cooperation on library activities to support afflicted people: time-limited restriction on the right of public transmission to afflicted area” on March 25, 2011. This is a request for right holders to cooperate on giving permission to transmit photocopies which libraries produces by e-mail and fax, and to transmit photocopied documents necessary for reading picture books to children and the elderly in the afflicted areas. Several institutions acted upon the announcement.

- Japan Book Publishers Association: Announcement was made on April 5, 2011 asking for understanding and cooperation of the JLA’s announcement to each member publisher.

- Public libraries such as the Fukui Prefectural Library and the Niigata Prefectural Library: Introducing books and documents on recovery and reconstruction, transmitting photocopies by e-mail and fax are planned to start. Note: The NDL also started the service on April 11.

The Japan Committee for UNICEF: “Children’s Mini Library Project,” a project to deliver picture books and children’s books to afflicted areas. Similar approach by Japan Book Publishers Associations, Japan Magazine Publishers Association and Japan Publishers Club. 30,000 books have already been delivered through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The Japan School Library Association is also planning to accept donations of new books to deliver to afflicted areas.

MESSAGES FROM ABROAD

Organizations such as UNESCO, Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS), expressed sympathy and readiness to support in their websites. The NDL also received numerous supporting messages from IFLA and libraries the world over.

IFLA INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER CONFERENCE 2011: REVIEW

Mr. Frederick Zarndt
Chair
IFLA Newspapers Section

FIRST IMPRESSIONS:

April 25–27 the National Library of Malaysia hosted the 2011 Newspapers Section Conference at the National Library in Kuala Lumpur. In these times of tight library budgets it was surprisingly well-attended with approximately 150 delegates from all Malaysian states as well as Australia, Singapore, Germany, the Netherlands, Finland, France, USA, and India. The news of the conference was in six national newspapers in English and Malay. It was opened by the Senator Maglin Dennis D’Cruz, who is also Deputy Minister of Communication, Information, and Culture. Keynote addresses were given by the Chief Executive Officer of the largest media company in Malaysia, Johan Jaafar, and the General Manager of the Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama), Hasnul Haasan. The conference was opened with dancers and a song composed especially for the conference, setting a very high standard for future newspaper conferences!



Opening of the Conference by the Deputy Minister of Communication, Information, and Culture of Malaysia, Senator Maglin Dennis D’Cruz



Prick-eared audience, mainly from Asian countries



The conference organisers accompanied by speakers and standing committee members at the entrance of the National Library of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur

AMICAL ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY | APRIL 27–30, 2011

Ms. Bughdana Ch. Hajjar

Instructor/Librarian, Lebanese American University
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania



Participants of the 8th Annual AMICAL Conference

The Lebanese American University (LAU) successfully hosted the 8th Annual Meeting and Conference (AMICAL)¹ in conjunction with the meeting of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities (AAICU)² from April 27 to May 1, 2011.

The theme covered was “E-content: Collecting, Managing, Promoting & Teaching.” Panel presentations, lightning talks, and discussions of interest groups “explored ways that library and information services need to evolve, and perhaps revolutionize the way they bring scholarly content to the academic communities they serve.”

Keynote speakers were:

1. Gene Spencer, an independent consultant serving the higher education IT and library communities;
2. Sabrina Pape, Director of the Libraries at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, since fall of 1996; and
3. Rick Anderson, Associate Director for Scholarly Resources and Collections in the J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah.

Seven presentations were offered by AMICAL members covering:

- Videoconferencing for collaborative instruction,
- A campus information systems survey of AMICAL institutions,
- Budget issues for moving from print to e-content,

- Discovery service implementation,
- Open-source library system implementation,
- Open access, and
- New AMICAL studies of student research behaviour.

AMICAL also held a major workshop/ pre-conference about IT-Library collaboration jointly with the AAICU group of presidents and chief academic officers.

The exhaustion of four full intensive days of work was alleviated by the Lebanese generous hospitality.

Attendees enjoyed wonderful dinners sponsored by an array of vendors, namely OCLC, Arabian Advanced Systems, Elsevier, ProQuest, and Springer amongst others. Some nights had a folkloric ambiance and the dance floor was never vacant. Participants also had the opportunity to stroll in the ruins of the old antique city of Byblos, had a maritime tour, and ended the day with an exquisite dinner of seafood.

¹ AMICAL, is a consortium of American universities across Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, and North Africa for the sharing of library resources and IT and Curricular development. <http://www.amicalnet.org/about/organizational-documents/ima>

² AAICU is a leadership organisation of American international universities, whose members provide responsible delivery and quality assurance of American higher education outside the United States. <http://www.aaicu.org/>

LONDON BOOK FAIR

2011

Mr. Sanjay K Bihani

Attaché (Library and Press & Information,) The High Commission of India, London
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania Section

The London Book Fair (LBF) 2011, March 11–13, 2011 at Earls Court, London is a leading international trade book fair, with new countries exhibiting. This year's Fair has the largest ever Market Focus Pavilion, a doubling in size of its Digital Zone and an expanded programme of seminars and events.

The Fair is the global marketplace for rights negotiation and the sale and distribution of content across print, audio, TV, film and digital channels. Taking place every spring in the world's premier publishing and cultural capital, it is a unique opportunity to explore, understand and capitalise on the innovations shaping the publishing world of the future. The Fair brings direct access to customers, content and emerging markets.

The Fair this year celebrated its fortieth anniversary. The first Fair was held in the basement of the Berners Hotel, off Oxford Street in 1971, with 22 exhibiting publishers. The Fair annually attracts over 23,000 attendees, with 58% domestic and 42% overseas.

This year the Fair featured 1,696 exhibiting companies from 58 countries including Turkey, Iran and Kuwait, all new for 2011. The Russia Market Focus 2011 placed a spotlight on contemporary Russian authors and Russia as an important publishing arena in the international community. The Russia Pavilion is the largest Market Focus Pavilion to date, and featured over 60 major publishers from Russia.

The London Book Fair also hosted a bigger and better digital offering than ever before. Over 14 countries represented and its number of exhibitors increased from 22 in 2010 to 46 in 2011.

A diverse programme of nearly 300 seminars and events addressing key industry issues took place during the three days, with over 500 speakers taking part in it. Some highlights below:

CHILDREN'S ZONE:

The Children's & Young Adult Publishing Zone was one of the Fair's largest zones and main seminar streams, featuring 150 exhibitors with a further 450 general exhibitors offering children's content. There was an increased emphasis on Children's events in 2011. Authors took part in the Children's seminar programme.

DIGITAL SEMINARS:

Due to high demand for Digital Seminars at last year's Fair, there were more digital seminars in 2011. It includes "The Book is Dead: Long Live the Global Book," "Going Digital, How Independent Publishers can achieve the Full Works," and "The Great Debate: will Publishers soon become irrelevant."

COOK BOOK CORNER:

International chefs from France to Romania and Denmark to Dubai, took part in live cookery demonstrations throughout the show in the Cook Book Corner, located in Earls Court Two.

AUTHORS OF THE DAY:

Best-selling authors Claire Tomalin, Boris Akunin and Julia Donaldson with illustrator Axel Scheffler, were Authors of the Day for 2011. This popular initiative was introduced in 2006. Each author spent one day at the Fair, where they showcased their work across a programme of seminars, book signings, events and photo opportunities.

And looking forward... The London Book Fair 2012 takes place April 16–18, 2012, Earls Court, London. The Market Focus country for next Fair in 2012 is China.



LIBRARY EVENTS

FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2011

SEPTEMBER

2011 ALIA National Library & Information Technicians Conference: "Back to Basics"

- ORGANISER Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- DATE 12–16 September 2011
- VENUE Perth, Australia
- CONTACT ALIA National Library & Information Technicians 2011 Conference Secretariat
C/o International Conferences & Events P/L
Suite 4, Level 2, 73 Hay Street
Subiaco WA 6008
Tel: +61 8 9381 9281
Fax: +61 8 9381 9560
Email: libtech2011@iceaustralia.com
- LINK <http://conferences.alia.org.au/libtec2011/>

ALIA 5th New Librarians Symposium

- ORGANISER Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- DATE 16–18 September 2011
- VENUE Perth, Australia
- CONTACT ALIA 5th New Librarians Symposium Secretariat
C/o International Conferences & Events Pte Ltd
Suite 4, Level 2, 73 Hay Street
Subiaco, WA 6008 Australia
Tel: +61 8 9381 9281
Fax: +61 8 9381 9560
Email: nls5@iceaustralia.com
- LINK <http://conference.alia.org.au/NLS5/>

2011 International Conference on Future Information Technology (ICFIT 2011)

- ORGANISER International Association of Computer Science & Information Technology (IACSIT)
- DATE 16–18 September 2011
- VENUE Singapore
- CONTACT Ms. Julie
International Association of Computer Science & Information Technology
7H-7J, First City Plaza, No.308,

Shuncheng Street
Chengdu, Sichuan, China 610017
Tel: +86-28-8652-8228
Email: icfit@vip.163.com
<http://www.iacsit.org>

■ LINK

12th Interlending & Document Supply Conference: Resource Sharing in the Digital Age

- ORGANISER IFLA Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Standing Committee
- DATE 19–21 September 2011
- VENUE Chicago, Illinois, USA
- CONTACT Email: registration@ala.org
- LINK <http://ilds2011.org/>

DCMI International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications: Metadata Harmonization: Bridging Languages of Description

- ORGANISER DCMI and various
- DATE 21–23 September 2011
- VENUE The Hague, The Netherlands
- CONTACT Associate Professor Emeritus Stuart A. Sutton
Email: sasutton@uw.edu
- LINK <http://dcevents.dublincore.org/index.php/IntConf/dc-2011/schedConf/>

Sixth International Conference on Digital Information Management (ICDIM 2011)

- ORGANISER IEEE Technology Management Council
- DATE 26–28 September 2011
- VENUE Melbourne, Australia
- CONTACT Email: conference@icdim.org
- LINK <http://www.icdim.org/>

Collated by

Ms. Nor Aishah Mohamed Rashid

Associate Librarian, Lee Kong Chian Reference Library, National Library Board Singapore

OCTOBER

Frankfurt Book Fair

- ORGANISER Frankfurt Book Fair
- DATE 12–16 October 2011
- VENUE Frankfurt, Germany
- LINK <http://www.book-fair.com/en/fbf/>

Helsinki Book Fair

- ORGANISER The Finnish Fair Corporation
- DATE 27–30 October 2011
- VENUE Helsinki, Finland
- LINK <http://web.finnexpo.fi/Sites1/HelsinginKirjamessut/en>

International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries (ICADL 2011)

- ORGANISER National Natural Science Foundation of China
- DATE 24–27 October 2011
- VENUE Beijing, China
- CONTACT Professor Yong Zhang, Tsinghua University
Email: icadl2011@lib.tsinghua.edu.cn
Phone: +8610-62772704
- LINK <http://www.icadl2011.org/>

8th International Conference on Intellectual Capital, Knowledge Management & Organisational Learning (ICICKM 2011)

- ORGANISER Academic Conferences Limited
- DATE 27–28 October 2011
- VENUE Bangkok, Thailand
- CONTACT Email: info@academic-conferences.org
- LINK <http://academic-conferences.org/icickm/icickm2011/icickm11-home.htm>

Internet Librarian International 2011

- ORGANISER Information Today, Inc., Information Today Ltd
- DATE 27–28 October 2011
- VENUE London, United Kingdom
- CONTACT Ms. Marydee Ojala, Conference Chair
Email: marydee@xmission.com
- LINK <http://www.internet-librarian.com/2011/>

LIBRARY EVENTS

FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2011

NOVEMBER

8th International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects (iPRES 2011)

- ORGANISER National Library Board, Singapore and the Nanyang Technological University
- DATE 1–4 November 2011
- VENUE Singapore
- CONTACT Email: ipresSingapore@gmail.com
- LINK <http://ipres2011.sg/>

13th Library Fair and Forum and 2011 Scientific Information Open Summit

- ORGANISER Japan Culture Corporation
- DATE 9–11 November 2011
- VENUE Yokohama, Japan
- CONTACT Email: LF@jcc.co.jp
- LINK <http://2011.libraryfair.jp/>

30th Istanbul Book Fair

- ORGANISER TÜYAP Fair and Exhibition Organization, Inc.
- DATE 12–20 November 2011
- VENUE Istanbul, Turkey
- LINK <http://www.istanbulbookfair.com/>

International Conference on Informatics Engineering & Information Science

- ORGANISER Society of Digital Information and Wireless Communications (SDIWC) and University Technology Malaysia
- DATE 14–16 November 2011
- VENUE Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- CONTACT Email: ie@sdiwc.net
- LINK <http://www.sdiwc.net/kl/>

2nd International Conference on Academic Libraries – ICAL-2011: “Planning for Globalizing Academic Libraries”

- ORGANISER University of Hyderabad
- DATE 27–30 November 2011
- VENUE Hyderabad, India
- CONTACT Dr. M. Koteswara Rao, Organising Secretary
IGM Library, University of Hyderabad
Tel: 40-23132600; 23010318
Fax: 40-23010193
Email: ical2011.uoh@gmail.com
- LINK <http://igmlnet.uohyd.ernet.in/ical2011>

Digital Media Asia 2011

- ORGANISER WAN-IFRA
- DATE 30 November – 2 December 2011
- VENUE Hong Kong S.A.R., China
- CONTACT Email: events@ifra.com
- LINK <http://www.ifra.com/>

DECEMBER

The International Association of Law Libraries 30th Annual Course: The Dynamics of Malaysian Law in the Global World

- ORGANISER The International Association of Law Libraries
- DATE 4–8 December 2011
- VENUE Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- CONTACT Harvinder Kaur, Chair of Local Organising Committee
Tel: 60 012 2644162
Fax: 603-7967 6513
Email: madurben@hotmail.com
- LINK <http://www.iall.org/iall2011/>

The Arab Federation for Libraries & Information (AFLI) 22nd Annual Conference

- ORGANISER The Arab Federation for Libraries & Information (AFLI)
- DATE 19–22 December 2011
- VENUE Sudan
- LINK <http://www.llaweb.org/news/more.php?id=223>

13th International Conference on Information Integration and Web-based Applications & Services (iiWAS 2011)

- ORGANISER Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
- DATE 5–7 December 2011
- VENUE Hue City, Vietnam
- LINK <http://www.iiwas.org/conferences/iiwas2011/>

6th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured Transactions (ICITST-2011)

- ORGANISER IEEE UAE Computer Chapter
- DATE 11–14 December 2011
- VENUE Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- CONTACT Email: info@icitst.org
- LINK <http://www.icitst.org/>

Helsinki – a city connecting east and west

Helsinki is the capital of Finland and home to half a million people – a city between west and east.

The Helsinki metropolitan area is very much the information-technology centre of Finland. Finns pioneered cell phone technology and the government was the first in the world to declare broadband internet access a human right. Of course libraries have been at the forefront of such changes, with free internet access for many years now. Over 60 percent of Finns have a post-comprehensive school qualification, and one in three has a university degree.

Helsinki has a well founded reputation for design and innovation and it has been nominated World Design Capital for 2012 – the same year as the 200th anniversary of Helsinki as the capital of Finland. Come and celebrate with us!

The IFLA conference venue is the Helsinki Exhibition and Convention Centre. The venue is centrally located and thanks to the effective public transport system, is easily reached from the city centre.

Finland

Independent republic since 1917, member of the European Union

POPULATION: 5.4 million

SIZE: 338,000 sq km, 7th largest country in Europe

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: Finnish and Swedish

TEMPERATURE IN AUGUST: max. +24, min. +9, mean +16 degrees Celsius

First announcement

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Libraries now!

Helsinki, Finland
11-16 August 2012



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