Members present:

Life Members:
1. Aw, Shirley
2. Amika Raghavan
3. Beh, Yolanda
4. Chan Thye Seng
5. Foo Chay Hong
6. Julie Sabaratnam
7. Kua Ngian Sim, Lena
8. Lau Siew Kheng
9. Lee-Wang Cheng Yeng
10. Liew Soon Kah
11. Lim Kim Char
12. Loy Shiow Yong
13. Manijeh Namazie
14. Ng Chen Wee
15. Ng Kim Leong
16. Ng Kok Koon
17. Ngian Lek Choh
18. Norisah Mansor
19. Ong Hong Kiat
20. Phua, Caroline
21. Quah Swee Lan
22. Rasu Ramachandran
23. Siti Hanifah Abdul Karim
24. Tan, Doris
25. Tan Keat Fong
26. Tan, Mary
27. Thavamani Ratnasamy
28. Teo Peck Lin, Judy
29. Wan Lye Tim
30. Yap Swee Beng, Sylvia
31. Yeo Pin Pin
32. Yeo Puay Chay, Dora
33. Yeo-Tang, I-Sha Isabel
34. Yip, Linda
35. Chow Wun Han
36. Choy Fatt Cheong
37. Dhaliwal, Balbindar Kaur
38. Foo Yan Chui
39. Gan Kim Hong
40. Gee Miaw Miin
41. Ho, Mary
42. K. Suselarani
43. Kan Sok Cheng
44. Kennedy, Joseph
45. Kim-Chew Ah Too
46. Kho Su Yian
47. Khoo Ai Ling
48. Khoo, Christopher
49. Koh Hwee Keng
50. Kwan, Fiona
51. Law Lin Mui
52. Lee Cheng Ean
53. Lee Ching Seng
54. Lee, Ivy
55. Leow, Tony
56. Lim Bee Ang
57. Lim Choon Lan, Phoebe
58. Lim Eng Kiat, Kenneth
59. Lim, Kris
60. Lin Yung Mei, Amy
61. Loo Lay Yen
62. Majid M. Shaheen
63. Ng Kok Lian, Chris
64. Ong Kiang Liang
65. Poh Swee Lian
66. Rajendra Munoo
67. Rokiah Mentol
68. Sim Chuin Peng
69. Sim, Susanna
70. Tan Kah Ching
71. Tan Lay Tin
72. Tan Shaw Tyi
73. Tan, Vivien
74. Tan Yee Lin, Ilyn
75. Tham Wai Fong
76. Tey Lin Lin
77. Tim Yap Fuau
78. Turner, Saralee Katherine
79. Wan Ho Wah

Professional Members:
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 Mar 2007 (Saturday), 2:00pm at Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall Singapore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87.</td>
<td>Wan Lye Tim</td>
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<td>88.</td>
<td>Wang, Lina</td>
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<td>89.</td>
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<td>Wong Yoke Fye</td>
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<td>93.</td>
<td>Yeow Puspa</td>
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<td>Yuhonis Mohamad Yusoff</td>
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<td>96.</td>
<td>S. Zahra Aljunied</td>
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<td>103.</td>
<td>National University of Singapore Libraries</td>
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<td>(Tim Yap Fuan)</td>
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<td>104.</td>
<td>Nanyang Technological University Library</td>
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<td>(Choy Fatt Cheong)</td>
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<td>105.</td>
<td>Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library</td>
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<td>(Phua, Caroline)</td>
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<td>106.</td>
<td>RTRC Asia Pte Ltd.</td>
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<td>Singapore Management University, Li Ka Shing Library</td>
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<td>(Pagell, Ruth)</td>
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<td>(Wan Lye Tim)</td>
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<td>Temasek Polytechnic Library</td>
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<td>(Mustafa Mahadi)</td>
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<td>110.</td>
<td>UNSW Asia Library</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(Trahn, Isabella)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Associate Members:**

- 97. Phua Phing Phing, Elizabeth
- 98. Vara Prasad

**Institutional Members (Libraries):**

- 100. INSEAD Library (Pang, Caroline)
- 101. ISEAS Library (Yip, Linda)
- 102. Khattar Wong (Phang Lee Lian)
- 103. National University of Singapore Libraries (Tim Yap Fuan)
- 104. Nanyang Technological University Library (Choy Fatt Cheong)
- 105. Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library (Phua, Caroline)
- 106. RTRC Asia Pte Ltd. (Chia, Cindy)
- 107. Singapore Management University, Li Ka Shing Library (Pagell, Ruth)
- 108. Singapore Polytechnic Library (Wan Lye Tim)
- 109. Temasek Polytechnic Library (Mustafa Mahadi)
- 110. UNSW Asia Library (Trahn, Isabella)

**Institutional Members (Others):**

- 111. IGroup Company Ltd. (Tan, Aviya)
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 Mar 2007
(Saturday), 2:00pm at Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall Singapore

1. President's Address

1.1 Ms Sylvia Yap, President of LAS welcomed the members to the AGM and thanked them for their attendance. She thanked SWETS for their partial sponsorship of the LAS AGM lunch and their support for the LAS Conference 2007.

1.2 In the President's address, Ms Sylvia Yap reported that the Association in 2006 continued to focus on providing opportunities for the members to network and grow professionally. During the year, a total of 9 activities, a Conference and 5 training courses were organised. She spoke about the LAS 2007 Conference bringing back the LAS spirit with members stepping forward to volunteer their services. She highlighted that the Conference was truly an "in-house" project -- organised solely by LAS members with support from staff of Singapore libraries. Also mentioned was the milestone development of the Professional Development Scheme (PDS) which was the Association's response to formally recognising professional development efforts and hopefully to also raise our professional status. She then reported a positive balance of over $22,000 for 2006. The balance she attributed to the many belt tightening measures and much sacrificing of personal time from the various Council members. Following the footsteps of past Presidents, she appealed to all members to be more active and help the Association reach out to their colleagues and friends and persuade them to join. She pointed out that it was against nature to wait until the Association can do something before joining. She called professionals to join and ensure that they have a say in how the Association can serve them better. She ended her speech thanking each and every one of the Council members, members of LAS Committees and Section, and leaders Singapore libraries for their unstinting support and encouragement.

2. Minutes of the last AGM held on 18 March 2006

2.1 The minutes of AGM 2006 were passed with no further amendments as proposed by Mr Mustafa Mahadi and seconded by Mr Tim Yap Fuan.

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes of AGM

3.1 The matters arising from the previous minutes of the AGM include the replacement of the LAS Code of Ethics with the Statement of Ethical Principles and YBP Services Award which were reported in the Annual Report.

4. Annual Report

The meeting went through the summary points of the IFLA Feasibility Report and LAS and NLB's agreed roles and responsibilities if Singapore were shortlisted to host IFLA 2010.
4.1 Changes to IFLA’s bidding process

4.1.1 Appointment of a Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) to handle all arrangements including onsite management of the event.

4.1.2 IFLA will target specific regions by first selecting a geographic region which includes 9 regions covering America, 3 Asian regions and Europe. Southeast Asia is in the same region as Australia and New Zealand.

4.1.3 The PCO will conduct a review and put forward a shortlist of suitable cities in that region, usually about 4 cities.

4.1.4 National Association Members in the shortlisted countries may submit a brief one-page expression of interest to host.

4.1.5 Decision will be based on information from PCO, and from discussions with the National Professional Association of the country. Number of IFLA members and how many have attended IFLA meetings are also possible criteria.

4.2 National Committee Role

4.2.1 Advisory and Consultative

4.2.2 Recruitment of local government or commercial group sponsorship. STB indicated they will chip in 100K Euros.

4.2.3 Recruitment and training of conference volunteers

4.2.4 Recruitment of local exhibitors

4.2.5 Selection of local institutions for library visits

4.2.6 Provide Visa support and advice

4.2.7 Propose conference logo, theme, Keynote and Plenary Speaker

4.2.8 Promote IFLA event in country

4.2.9 Provide travel grants for members in developing country. It was estimated to be about 75,000 Euros for 50 persons for Year 2006.

4.3 Pros and Cons

Ms Sylvia Yap went through the pros and cons of hosting IFLA as presented by the IFLA Feasibility Study Committee. She informed the meeting that the IFLA incoming President, Ms Claudia Lux had enquired if Singapore was interested to host IFLA 2010 at the LAS Conference held in January 2007.

4.3.1 Pros

4.3.1.1 Visibility of LAS and increased exposure of the Library scene in Singapore

4.3.1.2 Tourism benefits

4.3.1.3 NLB will benefit most

4.3.1.4 NTU School of Communication and Information benefits from running workshops
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 Mar 2007
(Saturday), 2:00pm at Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall Singapore

4.3.1.5 Exposure for local librarians. Provides opportunity to attend a large international conference.

4.3.2 Cons

4.3.2.1 Big financial risk – heavy demand on LAS for financial and manpower
4.3.2.2 Buy-in from government unsure
4.3.2.3 Support is dependant on the existing leadership of any change may affect support
4.3.2.4 Association weak in general and membership is very small
4.3.2.5 Lack expertise, no track record of hosting large event, lack of cooperation
4.3.2.6 No significant showcase
4.3.2.7 No significant draw

4.3.3 Others

4.3.3.1 It is important to get strong government support.
4.3.3.2 Time is opportune as after 2010 it may be a few more years before it comes around to our region again.

4.4 Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that NLB had approached Council to support their expressing an interest to bid for the hosting of IFLA 2010. They requested LAS to support them. LAS submitted a letter of support for NLB’s expression of interest to host because of the tight deadline of 5 March 2007 on condition that:

4.4.1 the letter will be withdrawn if AGM veto the support
4.4.2 LAS will not be financially liable for hosting of IFLA in Singapore

4.5 Ms Sylvia Yap invited members to go through the following LAS and NLB agreed roles and responsibilities if we host IFLA 2010. They could then decide if they want to support the bidding or not.

LAS and NLB agreed roles and responsibilities:

4.5.1 LAS shall strongly support the bid for hosting the IFLA 2010 Conference and mobilize significant commitment of manpower and professional involvement upon successful bidding in return for a 30 percent share of the 10 percent profit (if any) from IFLA.

4.5.2 LAS will also strongly encourage its membership to present papers at various section meetings to ensure that Singapore libraries are well-represented in the programme.
4.5.3 LAS shall be significantly represented in the highest level National Committee for the IFLA 2010 Conference. The representation shall allow LAS equal say with NLB, particularly on matters that have a bearing on the image of the profession, theme and content of the Conference.

4.5.4 NLB shall ensure that there is substantial exposure and publicity for LAS and the library profession, including prominent positioning of LAS logo in all publicity materials.

4.5.5 LAS shall not bear any financial liabilities relating to the organizing of IFLA 2010.

4.5.6 LAS will use its leverage from its community of libraries to do its best to source for sponsors.

4.5.7 LAS will do its best to ensure a successful and memorable conference for all the international delegates.

Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that other countries in the Asian region may also bid for it, for example, Australia. Dr Varaprasad, Chief Executive of NLB was also present at the meeting to answer any questions that LAS may have.

4.6 Responses from the members for LAS support of NLB’s bidding to host IFLA 2010

4.6.1 The meeting agreed that the terms and conditions were a good deal for LAS for the following reasons:

4.6.1.1 NLB being a government body would be able to undertake the financial liability and would relieve LAS from the financial burden

4.6.1.2 the Conference would be a good exposure for local librarians as well as a confidence boosting for young librarians

4.6.1.3 the hosting of IFLA in Singapore would give the local librarians an opportunity to attend IFLA

4.6.2 Mr Christopher Khoo representing the IFLA Feasibility Study Committee added that providing regional leadership was also one of the objective of the library training at NTU and therefore it would benefit the School.

4.6.2 Dr Varaprasad gave the assurance that NLB will defer all major projects for IFLA 2010. He added that IFLA volunteers could also include students and friends of libraries. Librarians would provide the professional leadership.

4.6.3 Dr Varaprasad suggested that we could include high profiling activities like inviting the Prime Minister to open the Conference or host the IFLA reception at the Istana. In addition, special awards honoring librarians
could also be given out. He added that the clause in item 4.5.4 on 'substantial exposure and publicity of LAS' would depend on IFLA's requirement. He also suggested that LAS modernize the logo.

4.6.4 Ms Sylvia Yap suggested that the next Council could look into activities that could enhance the visibility of librarians. She also appealed to retired librarians to put in as much effort as they could if the bid was successful.

4.6.5 The meeting agreed that LAS would obtain official commitment from major libraries as leadership in libraries changed since we are looking at hosting IFLA 4 years from now. The new Council would spell out details of the commitment.

4.6.6 Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that MICA and STB had agreed to support us. She concluded that financial burden was her main concern for not supporting IFLA. With NLB taking this burden off the Association, she would be more agreeable to it. With IMF being hosted in Singapore, Ms Sylvia Yap did not foresee much of a problem hosting IFLA in Singapore. She invited the meeting to have a show of hands if there were any members who would like to veto the support of NLB's bid for hosting IFLA 2010.

4.6.7 There was unanimous support for NLB's bid to host IFLA 2010.

5. Treasurer's Report and Supplementary Accounts for January to March 2007

5.1 Mr Tan Kah Ching presented the Treasurer's Report 2006 and the Supplementary Accounts from 1 January to 17 March 2007.

5.2 He informed the meeting that there were considerable savings due to the closure of the Secretariat office since the resignation of the administrative officer.

5.3 Ms Sylvia Yap thanked NLB for their generosity for renting to LAS a decent store at a low fee of $50.00 per month as well as allowing LAS to use their address as our mailing contact.

5.4 He highlighted that the income received and expenditure incurred in 2006 in relation to the LAS Conference 2007 would be carried forward to 2007 and reported in 2007's financial statement.

5.5 The audited accounts were passed as proposed by Ms Saralee Turner and seconded by Mr Rasu Ramachandran.

5.6 As he went through the Supplementary Accounts, Mr Tan Kah Ching gave a summary breakdown of the expenses incurred for the LAS Conference. These included: Conference site ($45,508), Speakers ($9,443), Programmes ($2,876), Delegates' Kits ($8,910), Sentosa Tour ($224), Library Tours ($212), Publication ($1,279), Publicity ($1,124), and Others ($270).
5.7 He also informed the meeting that the conference income were from delegates' fees to attend the conference and Sentosa tour ($77,725) and sponsorships ($95,026), and that he was still expecting payments from some delegates and 2 sponsors. The estimated profit so far was $103,231.


6.1 The amendments to the Annual Report were:

6.1.1 On the back of the cover page under the heading, '2006' - 'Conducted the CAVAL Survey' to read as 'Participated in the CAVAL Survey'.

6.1.2 Page 20 Item 3 LAS Conference Organising Committee to add 'Mrs Lee Cheng Ean' to the members list for the Sub-Committee, 'Sponsorship'.

6.1.3 Page 20 item 3.1.3 to be removed as it was a duplicate of the same item in page 21.

6.1.4 Page 33 under the heading, 'Professional Members' to add 'Mr Mustafa Mahadi'.

6.1.5 Page 34 under the heading, 'Associate Members' to add 'Ms Fiona Kwan'.

6.2 Dr Varaprasad thanked the Conference Committee for the good work. Ms Sylvia Yap added that it was a truly in-house Conference run by professionals from the various institutions. She thanked all institutions for their help in making the Conference a success.

6.3 There being no other amendments, the annual report was accepted as proposed by Ms Siti Hanifah Abdul Karim and seconded by Mr Joseph Kennedy.

7. Proposal for Changes to the LAS Building Fund

The meeting went through the proposal to rename the 'Building Fund' to 'Development Fund'.

7.1 The Building Fund was created to put aside funds to purchase a property for the setting up of the LAS Secretariat. In view of the current economic situation, it would not be likely that we would be able to fulfill this vision for the Association.

7.2 The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the fund were:

7.2.1 Provide awards for contributions to the profession such as those proposed by the Awards Panel
7.2.2 Provide sponsorship for the professional development of LAS members
    Such as achieving and retaining the Practising Librarian status
7.2.3 Provide funding for the development of the infrastructure of LAS
    Secretariat

7.3 Sources of the Fund
7.3.1 This fund would be set up with an initial Principal Sum of $150K which
    included:
    
    Transfer from Building Fund : $ 88,771.00
    Portion of profit from LAS Conference 2007 : $ 61,229.00

7.3.2 It is recommended that future Councils look into ways to maintain and
    grow the fund in order to support the TOR. The Council may approve the
    addition of funds to increase the value of the Principal Sum.

7.4 Approval for Use of the Fund

    It was proposed that Council be given in-principle approval to use the annual
    interests accrued during the Council term, subject to the limit stated in the
    Constitution, for projects that meet the TOR. In other words, Council might
    choose to:

    7.4.1 Use the interests earned each year during the year, or
    7.4.2 Use the cumulated interests earned across their two-year term in the
        second year of their term.

    Council would have to seek approval from the AGM to utilize the Principal Sum.

7.5 Responses from the members on the Proposed Changes to the Development
    Fund were:

    7.5.1 whether there were any tax implications arising from the change of
        name
    7.5.2 the rationale for the change in name
    7.5.3 if the TOR provided leeway for the definitions to be broadened

7.6 Mr Rasu Ramachandran clarified that NBDCS is a charity, hence, they can
    create a tax-free fund. LAS, however, is not a charity.

7.7 Mr Tan Kah Ching replied that he had checked and was advised that all LAS
    funds were eligible for taxation. He further elaborated that if less than 50 percent
    of the Association's income came from members, the association would be
    considered as running a business and all income would be taxable; however, if
more than 50 percent of the income is from members, only income from interest, rent and dividend would be taxable.

7.7 Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that the change of name would not change the tax liability. The TOR served to provide a basis for guiding Council on the use of funds. It allowed greater flexibility in the use of funds as well as a provision to grow the fund.

7.8 The proposal to rename the 'Building Fund' to 'Development Fund' and the proposed TOR were accepted by the AGM as proposed by Ms Yeo-Tang Isabel and seconded by Ms Puspa Yeow.

7.9 The approval to the use of funds was accepted as proposed by Ms Lena Kua and seconded by Ms Susanna Sim.

8. Appointment of Internal and External Auditor

8.1 Ms Sylvia Yap thanked Mr Tan Kah Ching and Ms Wan Lye Tim for sorting out the accounts and setting up an accounting guideline and system. Ms Sylvia Yap proposed that Mr Tan Kah Ching be appointed the internal auditor. Mr Rasu Ramachandran seconded the proposal.

8.2 Mr Tan Kah Ching informed the meeting that invitations to quote were sent out to 4 firms. However, one company did not reply, while another decline the invitation explaining that January and February were their busiest periods and they would not be able to take on our job. The third company gave a quote of $400.00 per month for each month of bookkeeping records of up to 25 transactions. This would amount to $4,800.00 for the whole year.

8.3 Our current accounting firm, EMC Business Partner Pte Ltd, submitted 2 options for bookkeeping: one at the end of the year at a rate of $980.00, and the other on a half-yearly basis at $1,300.00. Our existing auditing firm, KH Goh & Associates, quoted $900.00. Mr Tan Kah Ching recommended appointing the current accounting firm to do the half-yearly bookkeeping as well as the current auditing firm as our external auditor.

8.4 Mr Tan's recommendations were accepted by Ms Siti Hanifah Abdul Karim and seconded by Ms Kan Sok Cheng.


9.1 Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that there were no nominations for some Council positions. To date, 3 uncontested Council Members were nominated. She added that there was an expression of interest to take up the post of Assistant Honorary Secretary and the post of a Council Member by nominees who could not be present at the AGM. They had however appointed a proxy to represent them. Ms Sylvia Yap asked if the AGM could accept the nominees'
acceptance through the proxy as the Constitution made no mention on the practice.

9.2 There was no objection to the proxy acceptance of the nomination. Nominations were opened for the various posts for Council 2007/2009.

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<tr>
<th>Post</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Nominated by</th>
<th>Seconded by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Ms Ngian Lek Choh</td>
<td>National Library Board</td>
<td>Ms Sylvia Yap</td>
<td>Mrs Lee-Wang Cheng Yeng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Ms Puspa Yeow</td>
<td>Temasek Polytechnic Library</td>
<td>Mr Tan Kah Ching</td>
<td>Mr Tim Yap Fuan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Secretary</td>
<td>Ms Kris Lim</td>
<td>National Library Board</td>
<td>Ms Ngian Lek Choh</td>
<td>Ms Judy Ng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Treasurer</td>
<td>Mrs Tey Lin Lin</td>
<td>NUS Libraries</td>
<td>Mrs Lee Cheng Ean</td>
<td>Mdm Loy Shiow Yong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst Honorary Secretary</td>
<td>Mr Cumaraswamy Mukunthan</td>
<td>Trinity Theological College</td>
<td>Mr Choy Fatt Cheong</td>
<td>Ms Gee Miaw Miin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Member 1</td>
<td>Mr Majid M Shaheen</td>
<td>Nanyang Technological University</td>
<td>Mr Christopher Khoo</td>
<td>Ms Yeo Pin Pin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Member 2</td>
<td>Ms Catherine Tan</td>
<td>Nanyang Technological University</td>
<td>Mr Wan Ho Wah</td>
<td>Ms Tan Lay Tin</td>
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9.2.1 The proxy for Mr Cumaraswamy Mukunthan was Mr Tim Yap Fuan and the proxy for Ms Catherine Tan was Ms Lim Choon Lan, Phoebe.

9.2.2 The following Council Members were nominated before the AGM and were uncontested.

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<tr>
<td>Council Member 3</td>
<td>Kho Su Yian</td>
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<td>Loo Lay Yen</td>
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<td>Council Member 4</td>
<td>Tan Lay Tin</td>
<td>NUS Libraries</td>
<td>Tham Wai Fong</td>
<td>Lin Yung Mei, Amy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Member 5</td>
<td>Wan Ho Wah</td>
<td>Singapore Polytechnic Library</td>
<td>Mary Goh</td>
<td>Tan Kah Ching</td>
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</table>
9.3 The Special Libraries Section returned uncontested and the members were:

<table>
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<th>Post</th>
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<th>Seconded by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Joseph Kennedy</td>
<td>Baker &amp; McKenzie. Wong &amp; Leow</td>
<td>Christina Paulini</td>
<td>Manickam Ananthakannan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Secretary</td>
<td>Susan Song-Lim</td>
<td>Monetary Authority of Singapore</td>
<td>Florence Tan Kia Mui</td>
<td>Manickam Ananthakannan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member 1</td>
<td>Christina Paulini</td>
<td>Goethe-Institut</td>
<td>Florence Tan Kia Mui</td>
<td>Susan Song-Lim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member 2</td>
<td>Foo Yan Chuin</td>
<td>NUS Libraries</td>
<td>Christina Paulini</td>
<td>Caroline Pang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member 3</td>
<td>Caroline Pang</td>
<td>INSEAD Library</td>
<td>Foo Yan Chuin</td>
<td>Joseph Kennedy</td>
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10. Any Other Business

10.1 Approval of the Professional Development Scheme (PDS)

Ms Sylvia Yap informed the meeting that the Professional Development Scheme was a concept plan available to promote the Library Profession. She would like to seek feedback from the AGM and official acceptance of the Scheme.

10.1.1 Mr Choy Fatt Cheong briefed the meeting on the Professional Development Scheme. A taskforce was formed to look into the implementation of the Scheme. The members were Mr Choy Fatt Cheong from NTU Library, Mrs Kim-Chew Ah Too from NUS Libraries and Mrs Doris Tan from NLB. The gazetted status of the practicing librarian would be for a period of 2 years.

10.1.2 Responses from some members were that they had no objection to professional development but were concerned about the implementation details. If employers do not acknowledge the Scheme, it may not benefit the Special Libraries. The quality of courses would also determine if the training enhances the skills. One suggestion was that the taskforce co-op more members and developed a better way of implementing the Scheme.

10.1.3 Mr Choy Fatt Cheong replied that in Dec 2006, a Forum on PDS was held to discuss the Scheme. He added that the Scheme was a starting point for us to develop as we progress and that this was not creating something new. In fact, the Scheme was based on the training activities that were currently going on in the various institutions. It was hoped that the introduction of the Scheme would encourage more people to focus on professional development. The taskforce would continue to solicit feedback and implement the Scheme by end of 2007.
10.1.4 Ms Sylvia Yap informed that it would eventually be up to the Chiefs of Institutions to endorse. There would be teething problems initially but she believed that this was one way to convince Human Resources that librarians were developing professionally. It could also be used as an indication for someone who had left the profession temporarily to show that he or she is still actively upgrading himself or herself. If NLB is supporting the Scheme, then we at least would have government endorsement.

10.1.5 Mr Christopher Khoo felt that it would be good for LAS to start certifying and that we should not be too cautious to deliberate on a perfect Scheme and impede its implementation.

10.1.6 Mr Choy Fatt Cheong added that the PDS was a framework to acknowledge the amount of effort put into achieving professional competency. Big and small institutions would engage in training activities. The taskforce would work out possible activities. Non-participation in the Scheme would not prevent one from finding a job. The success of the Scheme depended on the participation of members. If we agree that professional development is important, then we had to take steps to move towards encouraging it.

10.1.7 Ms Sylvia Yap invited other members to comment as there was a silent majority.

10.1.8 The meeting agreed that professional development was important and that the taskforce could hold a session with those who were keen to contribute and participate in an in-depth discussion. The taskforce will work out the details and present them to Council for approval. This was hoped to give PDS one final debate and take the best of the views before implementation.

10.1.9 Mr Rasu Ramachandran endorsed the recommendations and Mr Christopher Khoo seconded the endorsement.
11. Acceptance Speech by the new President-elect

Ms Sylvia Yap invited Ms Ngian Lek Choh to the stage.

11.1 Ms Ngian Lek Choh urged the meeting to continue the spirit of working closer together. She indicated that the meeting had started to recognize the importance of professional development and participating in IFLA 2010 was one of the process in itself.

11.2 She added that membership drive had been a challenge especially for the younger librarians and that a taskforce may be set up to encourage members to invite their friends to collect feedback on programmes that could help us work together as a group. It would also help bring people to the fore. She concluded that she looked forward to greater cooperation among institutions.

12. Speaking as Immediate Past President of LAS, Mr Choy Fatt Cheong thanked the exiting Council for the work done and congratulated Ms Sylvia Yap for the tremendous amount of work done under her leadership.

13. Dr Varaprasad took this opportunity to thank LAS for the unanimous mandate to support NLB's bid to host IFLA 2010. He is looking forward to a more ambitious, confident and vibrant librarians to lead the Council in 2009. He added that the strength of our librarians should not be underestimated and that included all academic and special librarians. He hoped that we could learn from visiting speakers attending the Conference and that we could bring with us something to move forward to the next lap.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Recorded by Miss Tan Lay Tin
Honorary Secretary

Vetted by Miss Sylvia Yap
President