

Library Association of Singapore  
Founded in 1955

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# Annual Report

# *2009*

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# LAS Annual Report 2009

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# OBJECTIVES

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- To unite and promote the interests of all persons engaged in library and information work or interested in libraries and information centres.
- To promote the better administration and management of libraries and information centres.
- To encourage the establishment, development and use of libraries and information centres in Singapore.
- To promote professional education of persons engaged in library and information services.
- To work towards the enhancement of the status and role of professional in library and information services.
- To encourage its members, through its programmes and publications, to increase their own professional capacities and performance.
- To publish and disseminate such information and knowledge as will be of service to members.
- To undertake such activities, including the holding of meetings and conferences, as are appropriate to the attainment of the above objectives.

- *Extracted from the Constitution of the Library Association of Singapore*

# CHRONOLOGY

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- 1955 Formation of the Malayan Library Group on 25 March 1955.
- 1958 Name changed to Library Association of Malaya and Singapore.
- 1960 Association dissolved and split into 2 groups due to the Federation government's policy not to grant registration to pan-Malayan associations:
- Persatuan Perpustakaan Tanah Melayu (Library Association of Malaya)
  - Library Association of Singapore
- 1964 Library Association of Singapore was reconstituted as Library Association of Malaya, Singapore Branch, after the merger between Singapore and Malaya.
- 1966 The Singapore Branch reverted to become an independent body after Singapore's separation from Malaysia. The Persatuan Perpustakaan Singapore (Library Association of Singapore) was formed.
- 1972 The Association was renamed the Library Association of Singapore (LAS) on 25 March 1972.
- 2005 The Association celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 15 November 2005.
- 2007 The Association held its conference on the theme Librarians, Strengthening, Moving Forward from 29 to 31 January 2007.
- The Association accorded Mrs Hedwig Anuar the first LAS Lifetime Contribution Award on 1 November 2007.
- 2008 The Association gave out the LAS Professional Service to 3 award winners: Ms Lau Siew Kheng, Ms Manijeh Namazie and Mr R Ramachandran, at the Istana Reception on 9 May 2008.
- The Association held its LAS Conference 2008 on the theme "Innovate to Serve" on 8-9 May 2008.
- The LAS Professional Development Scheme was launched on 25 Aug 2008.
- 2009 136 LAS professional members from the first 5 batches were given the Practising Professional award under the PDS scheme.
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- The Association accorded the LAS Professional Service Award to Mrs Sylvia Yap at the LAS Tri-event held on 16 October 2009.
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- The Tri-event was also the occasion to launch the inaugural LAS Library School Scholarship award, which was awarded to Mr Herman Felani bin Md Yunos.
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- Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large and Patron of LAS, was invited to give out the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award to Ms Rosemary Yeap at the LAS Annual Dinner held at the Pod on 16 October 2009.

# CHRONOLOGY

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2010      Launch of first online volume of the Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management on 25 January 2010. The table of contents and full text of the articles for Volume 38 are open access and available to everyone. The journal is no longer available in hard copy.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear LAS Members

The new Council 2009/2011 started off with a retreat in April 2009 that was attended by both the outgoing and incoming council and subcommittee members. My sincere thanks and deep appreciation goes to the outgoing committee members for the learning points and the handover to the new team. It was a brainstorming and sharing session that was mooted by the outgoing Council as a way to lead the new Council into office smoothly. There was a free flow of ideas and the energy level was high throughout the session so much so that we gathered enough ideas to last us for the next 2 years!

Of high priority was setting directions for LAS for 2009/2011 and identifying the key strategies on professional development, networking and community building and advocacy with participation in career fairs so as to promote our profession. We also aim to strengthen our LAS brand with flagship events and to build a robust support system. Members can look forward to having an online membership database, online renewal and online payment by 2010/2011. We will also work on improving the communications and the operational issues to provide better support for the council members to do their tasks.

We had a very successful flagship event this year with the LAS Tri-event, thanks to the hard work of the Organising Committee that was led by Gene Tan who accomplished this feat within 5 months and Isabella Trahn who chaired the LAS seminar and poster session. There was overwhelming response and thanks for the encouraging feedback. We will definitely source for a bigger venue for our next conference.

Thanks to Joseph Kennedy for leading the LAS Award Panel team who came up with a very detailed awards manual. It was our great pleasure this year to honor 2 outstanding librarians who have shown a high level of dedication and passion and who have been instrumental in shaping LAS. We were pleased to have Prof Tommy Koh, our LAS Patron (since 1994) present the LAS Lifetime Achievement Award to Mrs Rosemary Yeap who made special arrangements to extend her holiday in Singapore. It was our pleasure to award Ms Sylvia Yap with the LAS Professional Service Award.

Thanks to Sylvia Yap and Choy Fatt Cheong who continue to actively support and promote LAS objectives and commitment to promote the professional status with their leadership in the PDS Board and the PDS Working Group. With the strong dedication and commitment of the working group members especially Kim-Chew Ah Too and Ong Juey Ming who conscientiously check all PDS applications and prepare the certificates for successful applicants, 43% of our LAS Professional and Life members have successfully achieved the LAS Practicing Professional award. This has been a great achievement for the association and for our profession.

I am deeply privileged to have worked with a dedicated team of outgoing council members where warm friendships have been forged and I am equally fortunate to be working with a very enthusiastic and passionate new council. With a highly committed mentor and a very caring Immediate Past President, Ngian Lek Choh and strong support from Gene, the Vice President, and a wonderfully bold with an always can-do attitude team of council members, we have managed to organize a series of training programmes and social events throughout the year.

Thanks to a very enthusiastic Programme and Social Committee, led by Sim Chuin Peng, we have at least 1 LAS event per month such as library and educational visits, sumptuous tea reception which facilitates networking, and professional talks. We are pleased that response has been overwhelmingly positive.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Our Membership team led by Soh Lin Li has worked very hard this year in promoting LAS membership, in updating the membership records and working closely with our enterprising Business and Development Committee led by Catherine Tan to bring in more benefits to our members such as the successful negotiation with Borders for privilege card and access to Emerald online database. Catherine and her team is instrumental in raising funds for LAS.

Thanks to our Publications Committee – Yeo Pin Pin and Sharmini, our ebulletin is promptly uploaded and we have launched the first online issue of our Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management.

With Rafi and his dedicated Website team members, our LAS website has more features, updated news and exciting photo galleries. Next to come will be online payment and the LAS community portal.

Special thanks to our Hon Sec, Wong Choy Ming, who has provided excellent admin support and has diligently attended to all email announcement requests.

Finally, thanks to our Treasurer Yit Chin Chuan and Kamil, who willingly volunteered to be our Internal Auditor, we ensure that the funds are well managed.

Once again with our advocacy efforts through career fairs at NTU in 2009 and NUS in February 2010 and thanks to the volunteers who have manned our LAS “Be a Librarian” booth, we have reached out to thousands of fresh graduates to promote our profession.

I look forward to your continued support and participation so that together we can work to progress the objectives of LAS, to promote and unite the profession, to enhance the image of the profession and to strengthen the capability of our members.

I urge members to come forward and volunteer your time to be active members in LAS committees such as in our Training and Development Committee, working groups and organizing committees.

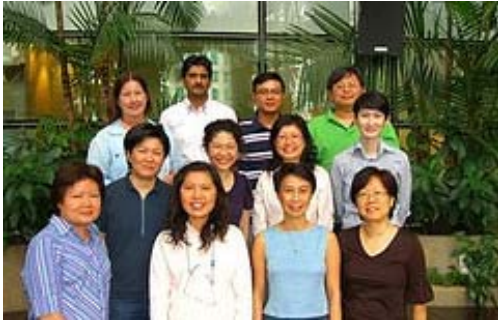
Do share with us your ideas on how LAS can serve you better. We would like to find out what else we can do to bring librarians closer and how we can develop capability and capacity for our library industry. We have built a momentum over these past few years with either a conference or seminar each year, plus regular professional talks, workshops and varied programmes and social activities. We aim to continue to build this momentum and we look forward to your continued support.



Puspita Yeow  
LAS President  
2009/2011

# LAS Council

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<b>President</b>	Ms Puspa Yeow
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Ms Ngian Lek Choh
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr Gene Tan
<b>Hon Secretary</b>	Ms Wong Choy Ming
<b>Hon Treasurer</b>	Mr Yit Chin Chuan
<b>Assistant Hon Secretary</b>	Ms Soh Lin Li
<b>Council Members</b>	Ms Catherine Tan Ms Isabella Trahn Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi Mr Sim Chuin Peng Ms Susan Song-Lim Ms Yeo Pin Pin

# LAS COMMITTEES

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## **BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT MEMBERSHIP**

### **Committee Members:**

Chairperson: Ms Catherine Tan Leng Yan  
Members: Ms Caroline Pang  
Mr Frank Seah  
Ms Chia Wei Fun

### **Terms of Reference:**

1. To engage in promotion and publicity of LAS publications.
2. To solicit advertisement for publications.
3. To keep inventory of LAS publications.
4. To process and maintain subscription of LAS periodicals.
5. To coordinate all activities relating to donations and sponsorship
6. To collate market information and identify new products and business.

### **Committee Members:**

Chairperson: Ms Soh Lin Li  
Members: Ms Chris Koh  
Ms Gee Miaw Miin  
Ms Phoebe Lim Choon Lan  
Mr Patrick Pu  
Ms Loh Hui Hong  
Ms Sharon Chen

### **Terms of Reference:**

1. To explore ways to increase LAS membership.
2. To look into providing more benefits to members.
3. To explore the possibility of making the LAS membership database accessible via the LAS website, with online membership application or update or renewal features.
4. Plan and implement suitable marketing programmes for LAS Flagship events and to increase membership.

# LAS COMMITTEES

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## PROGRAMMES AND SOCIAL

### Committee Members:

Chairperson: Mr Sim Chuin Peng  
Members: Ms Luo Biming  
Ms Ng Peck Suan  
Ms Georgiana Glass  
Mr Mustafa bin Mahadi  
Mr Leo Joon Meng

### Terms of Reference:

1. To plan and organize social activities and professional programmes, throughout the year, to foster greater participation among members.
2. To create an awareness of the association in order to attract and encourage more professionals to join as members.
3. To enhance the image of the profession by liaising with other institutions and organizing appropriate programmes.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Committee Members:

Chairperson: Ms Yeo Pin Pin  
Members: Ms Sharmini Chellapandi

### Terms of Reference:

1. To develop and implement publications policies and procedures for LAS publications.
2. To maintain quality control of all LAS publications according to acceptable standards.
3. To be responsible for the production of regular LAS publications originating from the Committee.
4. To be responsible for the editorial content of the periodicals published by LAS.
5. To be responsible for the compilation, editing, writing, updating or the commissioning of such undertakings of any LAS publications such as the LAS Conference, Seminar, Workshop Proceedings, Bibliographies, Lists, Reports.
6. To explore, establish and maintain alternative methods of state-of-the-art publishing, including electronic publishing, which are cost effective, speedy, and up to date.
7. To advise LAS Council on matters relating to LAS publications.

# LAS COMMITTEES

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## SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION

### Committee Members:

- Chairperson: Ms Susan Song-Lim,  
Monetary Authority of Singapore
- Secretary: Ms Kwok-Foo Yan Chuin,  
NUS CJ Koh Law Library
- Ex-Chairperson: Mr Joseph Kennedy,  
Singapore Management University
- Members: Ms Carol Sim Soek Cheng,  
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts
- Ms Tay Chiew Boon,  
National Library Board
- Ms Charlotte Gill,  
Singapore Management University
- Ms Manimekalai Thirumalai,  
Ministry of Trade & Industry
- Ms Hsu Yahsin,  
Bain & Co. [to Jan 2010]

### Terms of Reference:

1. To provide a platform for members to discuss issues pertaining to library, information and knowledge management services in special libraries.
2. To provide opportunities for members to network, collaborate and work towards the professional interest and welfare of library, information and knowledge professional engaged in special libraries.
3. To provide support to library, information and knowledge professional in special libraries to develop their professional skills and expertise
4. To enhance and promote the recognition of librarians, and information and knowledge management professionals working in special libraries.

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

### Committee Members:

- Chairperson: Ms Isabella Trahn
- Members: Mr Rajen Munoo
- Ms Faridah Ibrahim
- Ms Fiona Kwan (to Jun 2009)
- Ms Rashmi Lad (to Feb 2010)
- Ms Kow Yu (from Feb 2010)

### Terms of Reference:

1. To develop and review policy for continuing library education needs and the development of educational programmes.
2. To recommend and stimulate an interest in specific fields of study and research for practicing librarians.
3. To identify and publicize local and overseas scholarships, training and development programmes.
4. To act as a clearinghouse on all aspects of library education, training and development for the professional and public-at-large.
5. To represent the Association in organizations and agencies that are concerned with professional education, training and development.
6. To carry out commercial training where there are perceived opportunities.
7. To seek potential training partners and to propose partnerships where appropriate.

# LAS COMMITTEES

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## WEBSITE

### **Committee Members:**

Chairperson: Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi

Members: Mr Wan Ho Wah

Mr Joseph Kennedy

Mr K. Venkatachalam

Mr Kenneth Lim Eng Kiat

Mr George Yeo

Mr Ramaravikumar Ramakrishnan

### **Terms of Reference:**

1. To be responsible for the production, access, maintenance and marketing of electronic information on the LAS homepage.
2. To serve the information needs of the LAS Council and members of LAS.
3. To help publicize LAS through the Web.
4. To provide a forum for members for discussion of common problems and matters of professional concern.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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## **21 Mar 2009**

The LAS Annual General Meeting was held at the Rendezvous Hotel, Singapore, and attended by 125 LAS members. Proposed amendments to LAS Constitution was debated and accepted. Election of LAS Council 2009/2011 was conducted.

## **25 Mar 2009**

NLB Academy extended invitation to LAS members to attend 2 Guest Speaker Series talks -- "Application of New Technology in Basic Library Services " by Mr Sun Boyang, Assistant Director, Stack Management & Reading Services Department, National Library of China; and "Digital Resources Services in National Library of China" by Mr Li Chenguang, Librarian, Digital Resources & Services Department, National Library of China. Both talks were conducted in Mandarin.

## **1 Apr 2009**

NLB Academy extended invitation to LAS members to attend a Guest Speaker Series talk -- "The Insiders Guide to Getting Published in Research Journals - Workshop" by Mr Adam Sutcliffe, Senior Business Manager – S.E. Asia, Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

## **20 Apr 2009**

LAS Special Libraries Section, NLB, Special Libraries Association and Li Ka Shing Library, SMU jointly organised a talk on "The 21st Century Information Professional: Pinpointing Strategies for Career Success" by Janice Lachance, CEO, Special Libraries Association.

## **15 May 2009**

A visit to Safti Library was organised by the 2007/2009 Programmes & Social Committee. The visit was attended by 24 participants.

## **1 Jun 2009**

The Business Development Committee developed partnership with Emerald Group Publishing to provide access to Emerald's Library Information Studies eJournal collection to LAS members. Monthly list of most accessed articles would also be emailed to members.

## **10 Jun 2009**

The Programmes and Social Committee organised a visit to the Chinese Heritage Centre and Wang Gungwu Library. The event was attended by 24 participants.

## **23 Jun 2009**

Inaugural tea session and formation of the Business Librarians Group, under the Special Libraries Section. Over 30 business librarians attended the meeting.

## **30 Jun 2009**

LAS Training and Development Committee together with Temasek Polytechnic Library, organised a sharing session on integrated library systems. The session was held at Temasek Polytechnic Library and attended by 56 participants.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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## **2-3 Jul 2009**

LAS Training and Development Committee brought back a 2<sup>nd</sup> run of the popular workshop on “Oral Presentation Skills for Librarians”.

## **9 Jul 2009**

A visit to 3M Woodlands and 3M Yishun Facilities was organised by the Programmes and Social Committee. The visit was hosted by 3M Singapore and attended by 31 participants.

## **16 Jul 2009**

LAS Training and Development Committee with Nanyang Technological University Library, organised a workshop on “Counting citations : what every good librarian needs to know”. The workshop was conducted by Mr Choy Fatt Cheong, University Librarian, NTU and Ms Rashmi Lad, Head of Instructional Services, Nanyang Technological University.

## **16 Jul 2009**

Special Libraries Section and the Law Librarians Group jointly organised a sharing session on creating customised current awareness service using RSS feeds. A total of 22 participants attended the session, which was conducted by Ms Charlotte Gill, Li Ka Shing Library, Singapore Management University.

## **21 Jul 2009**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a visit to the Li Ka Shing Library, Singapore Management University.

## **12 Aug 2009**



The first Professional Development Scheme (PDS) Update cum Sharing session was organised by the Programmes and Social Committee with the PDS committee. This event marks the presentation of PDS certificates to 44 successful PDS applicants from the pioneer 2008 batch and first and second batches of 2009. The event was attended by 80 participants.

## **19 Sep 2009**

The Programmes and Social Committee organised a walking tour of Kampong Glam area, which was conducted by Johannes Widodo, Associate Professor and Director of CASA (Centre for Advance Studies in Architecture) at the Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore. The event attracted 25 participants.

## **30 Sep 2009**

LaSalle College of the Arts extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk on “Introduction to Master of Arts – Asian Art Histories” by Jeffrey Say, Art Historian & Programme Coordinator for La Salle MA in Asian Art Histories.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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## 1 Oct 2009

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk “Enter the Lady Dragon: An Entrepreneur's perspective on challenges and breakthrough “ by Ms Rachel Elnaugh, Entrepreneur-in-residence, British Library.

## 2 Oct 2009

LAS Training and Development Committee organised a one-day workshop on “Understanding Toxic Emotions For Librarians” by Dr Lee Chu Keong, Wee Kim Wee School of Information Studies, NTU.

## 9 Oct 2009

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a visit to Temasek Polytechnic Library. 18 members participated in visit.

## 16 Oct 2009



The LAS Tri-event with the theme “Libraries for Tomorrow” was held at the National Library Board building. The Tri-event comprised a

Product Fair, a Seminar and the LAS Annual Dinner. The Fair was attended by more than 400 people while the Seminar was attended by 188 people. The LAS Annual Dinner was held at the Pod and was attended by 107 people, including 21 guests.

## 19 Oct 2009

The Membership Committee, together with the Business Development Committee, launched the Borders Preferred Membership card for LAS members who renew their personal membership by 30 Nov 2009. 58% of personal members took up the application for Borders Preferred Membership card.

## 22 Oct 2009

NLB's Professional and International Relations (PIR) extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Professional Talks series session on “Driver or Passenger - Responding to Changes - NTU Library” by Mr Choy Fatt Cheong, University Librarian, NTU. Talk was attended by 29 members.

## 23 Oct 2009

NLB Academy extended the invitation to LAS members to attend a Guest Speaker Series talk - Introduction to and comparison and analysis of Chinese electronic resources” (in Mandarin) Mr Zhang Hongyuan Assistant to the Director, Head of Acquisition Department, Wuhan University Library, China. This event was jointly organized with Programmes & Social Committee.

## 5 Nov 2009

NLB's Professional and International Relations (PIR) extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Professional Talks series session on “Dealing with the

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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Digital Deluge: NLNZ's Role in Shaping the Strategy and Delivery for New Zealanders” by Ms Sue Sutherland, Deputy Chief Executive of National Library of New Zealand. The talk was attended by 25 members.

## **18 Nov 2009**

A second run of the highly popular visit to 3M Woodlands and 3M Yishun Facilities was organised by the Programmes and Social Committee. The visit had 29 participants.

## **19 Nov 2009**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a “Design Thinking Workshop: Designing the Future Library” by Scott Pobiner.

## **25 Nov 2009**

NTU Library extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk on “Supporting Faculty Knowledge Production : *Challenges and opportunities for information professionals in a digitally connected world*” by Mary Lee Kennedy, Executive Director, Knowledge and Library Services, Harvard Business School. 42 members attended the talk.

## **30 Nov 2009**

LAS Training and Development Committee organised a one-day workshop on “Understanding Businesses, their Related Concepts and Information Sources to Support Them” by Dr Lee Chu Keong, Wee Kim Wee School of Information Studies, NTU.

## **30 Nov 2009**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to attend Guest Speaker Series talk on “Towards Archiving and Managing Community Formation in Web 2.0 Environment” by Dr Paul Wu Horng-Jyh, Senior Fellow (Wee Kim Wee School of Comm & Info), NTU. 12 members attended the talk.

## **3 Dec 2010**

The Programmes & Social Committee organised a tour of the National Archives of Singapore. The visit was attended by 24 participants.

## **9 Dec 2009**

National University of Singapore Libraries extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a morning talk on “U.S. Academic Libraries Today: Challenges and Opportunities” by Dr Wendy Simmons, Information Resource Officer, US Embassy, Bangkok, Thailand. 28 members attended the talk.

## **9 Dec 2009**

The Programmes & Social Committee organised an afternoon talk on Finding the Best of the Internet by Dr Wendy Simmons, Information Resource Officer, US Embassy, Bangkok, Thailand. The talk was attended by 50 members.

## **8 Jan 2010**

NLB's Professional and International Relations (PIR) extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Professional Talks series session on “NUS Libraries:

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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our journey towards excellence” by Ms Sylvia Yap University Librarian, National University of Singapore. 23 members attended the talk.

## **12 Jan 2010**

The Programmes & Social Committee organised a tour of the World Scientific Publishing Company. 19 members participated in tour.

## **13 Jan 2010**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Guest Speaker Series talk on “Transforming The Role of Librarians Through Web 2.0” by Olivier Amprimo, Asst Director (Knowledge Services), NLB. 15 members attended the talk.

## **22 Jan 2010**

The Programmes & Social Committee organised a tour of the Republic Polytechnic Library. 36 members participated in this event.

## **3 Feb 2010**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Guest Speaker Series talk on “Greenstone Tales: Lessons From The First Decade and a Glimpse of The Future” by Dr David Bainbridge, University of Waikato

## **4-5 Feb 2010**



LAS@NUS Career Fair 2010 held at the National University of Singapore. 16 LAS members volunteered for this advocacy work to promote librarianship and took turns in manning the booth where over 670 flyers and LAS brochures were given to those who visited the booth. LAS received 77 resumes which were forwarded to participating libraries.

## **22 Feb 2010**

LAS Training and Development Committee brought back a 3<sup>rd</sup> run of the popular workshop on “First Steps in Becoming a Super Searcher”.

## **23 Feb 2010**

Nanyang Technological University Library extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a Chinese book talk by Mr Ting Kheng Siong. Talk is jointly organized by NTU Library, Wee Kim Wee School Of Communication & Information and Global Publishing.

## **25 Feb 2010**

The Programmes and Social Committee organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> PDS Update Session cum High Tea with a talk on para-professional training which LAS will be offering in 2010/2011 and the competency standards that have been developed. Another 31 members from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> batch received their PP certificates.

## **4 March 2010**

Nanyang Technological University Library extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk on “Surviving Peer Review & Best Practices on Publication Ethics” by Amanda Davis, Publishing Director from Life Science & Professional.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

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## **4 March 2010**

NLB extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk on “Development of Institutional Repository using DSpace Software: An experience @ IIIT Noid” by Dr Sanjay Kataria, Head of Learning Resource Centre at the Jaypee Institute of Information

## **19 March 2010**

The Programmes and Social Committee organised a tour of the Nanyang Polytechnic Library. 37 members participated this event.

## **25 March 2010**

Singapore Management University Library extended invitation to LAS members to participate in a talk on “Data Services and Hot Issues in American Libraries” by Mr Terrence Bennett, Business & Economics Librarian from the College of New Jersey.

# MEMBERSHIP

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The table below gives the membership status as of 31 December 2009. There was an overall increase of 4% of the total membership with significant increase coming from the Institution (Others) category. As the membership renewal exercise for 2010 was started in mid October 2009, this percentage growth takes in account new members who joined the Association from mid October 2009.

As it is the first time that the Association offers tangible benefits such as Borders Membership Card for personal membership renewal and new sign up, 58% of the personal members renewed their membership before end November 2009. This allows the membership team to process the membership more efficiently. Many members also reflected they liked the ease and convenience for them to renew their membership at major LAS event such as the LAS Tri-Event held on 16 October 2009. Such an approach for membership drive can be adopted for future membership renewal exercises.

Category	December 2008	December 2009	% Change
Honourary	3	3	0
Life	104	104	0
Professional	198	210	6%
Associate	104	111	7%
Affiliate	3	1	-67%
Institution (Libraries)	38	39	3%
Institution (Others)	6	10	67%
Institution (Schools)	17	12	-29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>4%</b>

# FINANCE

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The total income and expenditure for the year 2009 are reflected in the Auditor's Report which is presented in Appendix 3.

The main sources of income were from membership fees (\$39,140), sponsorships (\$36,407), Training & Development course fees (\$8,310), and LAS Seminar/Dinner (\$7,388).

The main expenditure items were the LAS Seminar/Dinner (\$23,478), Training expenses (\$6,846), Tax (6,732), and AGM expenses (\$6,328).

The key change to our Association bank accounts is the closure of the LAS Development Fund current account with DBS, which was depleting annually by \$30 for each audit check done. We have also closed the HSBC Fixed Deposit Account, as the amount deposited there did not generate a large amount of interest payments. The funds from these accounts have been consolidated and redirected to our DBS Fixed Deposit account with an additional topping from our current funds to form a \$200,000 6-month-deposit placed over and above our current deposit of \$92,000 12-month-deposit.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

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1. The AGM 2009 was held at Hotel Rendezvous, Singapore, on 21 March 2009 (Saturday). 125 members attended the meeting.
2. The minutes of the previous AGM were passed with no further amendments.
3. The AGM received and approved the Annual Report for the year ending March 2009 and the audited accounts for the Financial Year ending December 2008.
4. The proposal for the change in Constitution was formalized at the Annual General Meeting in 2009.

Please see **Appendix A** for **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21 Mar 2009**.

# COUNCIL MEETINGS

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1. **Council Meetings.** The Council held 5 Council meetings on 8 May 2009, 24 Jul 2009, 25 Sep 2009, 20 Nov 2009, and 22 Jan 2010.
2. **Librarians Community.** Council agreed to suggestion for formation of focus group to explore and gather feedback on how the community portal could be used for the LAS community.
3. **Appointment of Internal Auditor.** Council endorsed the appointment of Mohamed Kamil Yusoff from Nanyang Polytechnic as LAS Internal Auditor. Email to LAS members was sent on 18 July 2010. The appointment would be reconfirmed at next AGM.
4. **Constitutional Amendments.** This was a follow up to the amendments to the Constitution that were passed at last AGM. Upon application for amendments to the LAS constitution to the Registry of Society (ROS) , there was a recommendation for clarity on the category of life members. Council clarified and accepted the amendment proposed by ROS to the statement in Rule 2 of Article VII of the constitution that “Only professional, *professional life and honorary* life members may stand for election to the Council”. In addition changes to by-laws need not be submitted to ROS for approval. However, any changes to the by-laws cannot contradict the main Constitution. The Council confirmed that the proposed by-laws would not contradict our current Constitution.
5. **Emerald Partnership.** Emerald has offered to give all LAS members access to the journal articles in Emerald Library & Information Studies (LIS). In addition, every month all LAS members will get a list of top 20 downloaded articles in Emerald LIS database emailed to them. Council 2007/2009 had approved the arrangement and Council 2009/2011 reviewed and accepted the terms for Emerald access. The partnership is for 1 year, subject to review for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
6. **LAS Tri-event.** Council decided to have a Product Fair with half-day seminar as a flagship event for the year. The “Libraries for Tomorrow” was the theme for the LAS Product Fair and Seminar held on 16 Oct 2009 at the National Library. The theme reflected the focus on creative approaches by the library and information profession towards the future. The Annual LAS Dinner was held in the evening to round up the events for the day.
7. **LAS Awards Panel and amendments to the manual.** The Council approved the new panel members with Joseph Kennedy as Chair and the amendments to the LAS Awards manual with changes to the criteria of the LAS Outstanding Newcomer, clearer distinction between Lifetime Contribution and Professional Service Awards and that the Professional Service Award be also carried out by nomination process.
8. **PDS Board.** The Council approved the PDS Board extension of term to June 2011 so as to provide the next council sufficient time to appoint a new Board.

# COUNCIL MEETINGS

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9. **Appointment and Appreciation letters.** Council also put in place the provision of official appointment / appreciation letters. The LAS President would sign the appointment letter for any post appointed by the Council and the respective chairs would sign the letters for their committees and working groups. Templates of these letters are posted in the community portal.
10. **ACTA training and WDA.** In response to LAS call for trainers, 10 members had signed up to attend the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment (ACTA) course in preparation for course development and training of Level 2 modules for para-professionals based on the Library competency standards. Council supported in-principle the proposal that LAS pay for up-front ACTA training for members undertaking ACTA training certification.
11. **Online Journal.** Council agreed to adopting the open access model for the LAS journal and cessation of printing of hardcopies of the Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management.
12. **Online Payment.** Council agreed in-principle to implementing PayPal for online collection of membership fees for renewal. However, this would require a change to the constitution which would have to be passed at the AGM to allow online payment for membership fees.
13. **Collaboration with Borders.** Council approved proposal to take up offer from *Borders* for a 1-year membership of the *Borders Preferred Card* (BPC) to the LAS at a special price for LAS members. In exchange, LAS will give *Borders* exhibition space at the LAS Product fair.
14. **LAS @ NUS Career Fair 2010.** The Council with support from the Council of Chief Librarians and NTU Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information (WKWSCI) agreed for LAS to participate in the NUS Career fair on 4-5 Feb 2010 to raise the profile for the library profession, to promote our profession to undergraduates and to tell them more about librarianship as a career. There was strong support from a total of 16 volunteers from MDIS, NLB, NTU, NUS, NIE, NYP, SPH, SMU and TP libraries. The booth was aptly named "Be a Librarian!" and the cost was shared by WKWSCI.

# REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

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## **1 Business Development Committee**

- 1.1 The Business Development Committee worked on getting sponsorships for the Libraries for Tomorrow event. The sponsors were : UBS, Apabi, iGroup and Ariti Proquest, OnAsia, Wanfang, Lexis Nexis, ExLibris, Swets, Alexander Street and 3M.
- 1.2 Besides monetary sponsorships, the Committee developed partnerships with vendors.
  - (a) Emerald has given all LAS members access to its LIS collection. Every month all LAS members were emailed titles of the top downloaded articles from the LIS collection. In return Emerald is given publicity opportunities in LAS events.
  - (b) Borders agreed to give LAS a 50% discount to their Borders Preferred Membership card for a limited time period. In return Borders was given a complimentary booth at the Libraries for Tomorrow event.

## **2 Membership Committee**

See updates in Section on Membership.

## **3 Programmes and Social Committee**

- 3.1 For the period May 2009 to March 2010, the Committee organized a total of 14 activities, which included visits to local libraries and library suppliers, heritage walking tour, talks, sharing session and annual LAS dinner. They were well-attended by members.
- 3.2 Among the highlights of this period were the PDS Update & Sharing Session and the Annual LAS Dinner. The Committee worked together with the PDS Working Group to organize the PDS Update & Sharing Sessions on 12 August 2009 and 25 February 2010 at the Possibility Room, National Library Building. Certificates were presented by President of the LAS to successful applicants for Practicing Professional under the PDS scheme during the event. The Committee also worked together with LAS Tri-Event Organizing Committee to organize the Annual LAS Dinner on 16 October 2009 at the POD, National Library Building. Professor Tommy Koh, Patron of LAS, graced the event. 2 awards, LAS Library School Scholarship and LAS Lifetime Contribution Awards, were presented to the recipients during the dinner.
- 3.3 NLB, NTU Libraries, NUS Library and SMU Library had also extended their invitation to LAS members for 16 events.

## **4 Publication Committee**

The Singapore Journal of Information and Library Management was converted to an open access and fully online journal with effect from volume 38 in 2009. The copyright statement was changed to give authors the

# REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

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ownership of the article so that it can be posted on personal or institutional websites or repositories. LAS retains the rights to publish, store and use the articles. Hard copies of the journal would not be printed anymore, but the full text of the articles can be found on the LAS website. The journal URL is <http://www.las.org.sg/sjlim.htm>.

The editorial board comprises: Associate Professor M. Shaheen Majid (Nanyang Technological University), Associate Professor Christopher Khoo Soo Guan (Nanyang Technological University), Choy Fatt Cheong (Nanyang Technological University Library), Idris Rashid Khan Surattee (Singapore Press Holdings Information Resource Centre), Isabella Trahn (Nanyang Technological University Library) and Yeo Pin Pin (Singapore Management University).

The Singapore Libraries Bulletin Editor was Sharmini Chellapandi (National Library Board). The bulletin continued to be published on an online blog platform. With contributions from members, LAS Committee Members and LAS Council Members, we were able to publish articles published every month.

## 5 Special Libraries Section (SLS) Committee

- 5.1 The SLS Committee held 2 meetings so far, on 23 Apr and 2 Jul 2009. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, members agreed that it was not necessary to conduct face-to-face meetings so often as most issues could be deliberated and resolved efficiently over email correspondences. A 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will be scheduled in Mar 2010.
  
- 5.2 A **Business Librarians Group (BLG)** has been formed, following an inaugural tea session with over thirty (30) business librarians from NLB, NUS, NTU, SMU, SIM, EDB, IE Singapore, IRAS, MAS, MTI, Bain & Co., etc. The Group agreed to meet quarterly, with each meeting being hosted and chaired by respective libraries/institutions to discuss one or more issue(s) of interest.
  - (a) BLG has so far met thrice on:
    - (i) 23 Jun 09 at the National Library Board),
    - (ii) 4 Nov 09 at the Nanyang Technological University, and
    - (iii) 26 Feb 10 at the Singapore Management University.
  
  - (b) Specifically, its Terms of Reference (ToR) are to:
    - (i) Promote communication and cooperation among business information professionals in Singapore.
    - (ii) Share information and exchange ideas at regular forums.
    - (iii) Organize business information-related events and programs.
    - (iv) Participate in the "Special Libraries Section" in LAS and promote BLG's interests to a wider audience.

# REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

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In crafting the above ToR, due consideration has been given to the following points:

- Aspects of cooperation to include resource sharing where feasibly possible.
- As part of professional development, members are encouraged to share their experiences of conferences which they had attended.

(c) The Scope of Participation, which is as follows, would include only people working in business libraries and information centers in Singapore for a start:

- (i) Business libraries and information centers providing business and related information services to their users.
- (ii) Librarians and information professionals engaged in the provision of business and related information.

5.3 On 16 July 09, SLS and the **Law Librarians Group (LLG)** jointly organized a sharing session on creating a customized current awareness service using RSS feeds. The session was conducted by Charlotte Gill of SMU Library. A total of 22 participants attended the training. Besides LLG members, the session was also open to SLS committee members so that those interested can learn and create their subject specific awareness service to be shared with their respective groups. Owing to resource constraints, SLS is unable to open this session to other LAS members. The participants generally found the session to be very useful and relevant, and agreed that they would explore implementing such a service back in their workplace.

5.4 The **Arts Librarians Group (ALG)** organized 4 meetings cum library tours in 2009 at the following:

- (a) Esplanade Library followed by a tour on 25 Feb 2009
- (b) Asian Civilization Museum Library followed by a tour on 27 May 2009
- (c) LASALLE Library followed by a tour on 27 Aug 2009
- (d) NTU Library followed by a tour on 3 Dec 2009

ALG also compiled a survey in May 2009 of 7 Art, Architecture & Design libraries in Singapore, collecting data on their facilities, collections and services. One of its other initiatives was to explore the feasibility of having an inventory of artworks collected at various art organizations in Singapore. This project was deemed to be useful for arts heritage in Singapore.

5.5 During the year, SLS worked with Scott Davidson, who represented Special Libraries Association (SLA)'s Asian Chapter, to explore how SLS/LAS and SLA could collaborate for the benefit of both associations. A draft proposal was eventually put forward for LAS members to pay a token sum for access to SLA's web resources and activities in various committees. However, the sum proposed is deemed by SLA as not equitable. Nevertheless, SLS will continue to engage SLA in future discussions to explore other win-win model between SLS/LAS and SLA.

5.6 SLS started an initiative in November 09 to explore collaborative opportunities with service provider(s) to sponsor and host an annual event for members in

# REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

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its various groups to get together. The objective is to foster a closer working relationship with special librarians and information professionals, and to establish a collaborative platform that facilitates open communication, knowledge sharing and innovation. Possible programs could include:

- (a) An annual networking event for special librarians and information professionals
- (b) Sponsoring an award for special librarians in recognition of outstanding achievement or contribution
- (c) Hosting of smaller group workshops/talks on topical areas such as KM and innovation (Target: 2 a year)

5.7 The following committee members are also representing SLS in the various special librarians groups and LAS initiatives:

- (i) Arts Librarians Group - Carol Sim and Tay Chiew Boon
- (ii) Business Librarians Group – Susan Song-Lim, Manimekalai Thirumalai and Hsu Yahsin
- (iii) Law Librarians Group - Joseph Kennedy and Charlotte Gill
- (iv) LAS Awards Panel - Joseph Kennedy
- (v) Library and Information Services Competency Standards Development workgroup - Susan Song-Lim

## **6 Training and Development Committee**

6.3 Workshops and seminars for some 300 plus registrants included:

- (a) Oral Presentations Skills for Librarians (2 days July 2009)
- (b) Citation Counting Workshop (July 2009)
- (c) Libraries for Tomorrow Seminar and Poster Programmes (October 2009)
- (d) Understanding Businesses (November 2009)
- (e) First Step to becoming a Super Searcher (February 2010)
- (f) Business Hands- on (March 2010)
- (g) Library Systems Sharing – admin support (July 2009)

6.4 LAS places have been negotiated at the NLBA Writing for Social Media (NLBA) March 2010, as the content was very similar to a proposal put to the presenter. One other workshop which failed to meet the minimum registrations was withdrawn prior to the date. Papers from the Libraries for Tomorrow are being published.

6.5 Preparations are underway to provide the infrastructure required for a regular programme of nationally recognized training modules for support staff due to commence in July 2010. One benefit of being required to meet the criteria set out by the WDA will be improved procedures and administrative support.

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## 7 Website Committee

7.3 The LAS website received 332,833 hits during the period Apr 09-Feb 10.

Month	No. of Hits
Apr-09	41,880
May-09	31,525
Jun-09	29,898
Jul-09	33,291
Aug-09	29,657
Sep-09	33,086
Oct-09	11,698
Nov-09	36,642
Dec-09	25,867
Jan-10	32,820
Feb-10	26,469
<b>Total</b>	<b>332,833</b>

7.4 The LAS website was enhanced with the following features:

- (a) Added a new top navigation menu which will enable to implement any changes to the menu, header and footer easily without editing all html pages individually.
- (b) Implemented a new digital photo frame to display random photos from LAS's Flickr account to replace the previous one due to some performance issues.
- (c) The main page design was improved with a consistent font and centralised layout and now featured with latest Blog Post entries from SLB Blog and announcements from PDS Website.
- (d) Created a self upload function for the SLB committee to upload the digitized journals to the LAS website and make them available online for easy access.
- (e) A group email alias [las\\_council@las.org.sg](mailto:las_council@las.org.sg) was created for the council members to communicate with one email address.

7.5 Online community spaces were set-up in the librarians.sg system (managed by NLB team) for the LAS Council, LAS Web Committee and LAS Training & Development Committee members to use it as a common platform for discussion and store documents centrally.

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- 7.6 The LAS website hosting plan was upgraded to increase the storage capacity and a better email system. Migration of the entire website and mail rules were completed in Sep 2009 without any disruption to the website.
- 7.7 LAS's Flickr account was upgraded to Flickr Pro plan for the central keeping and sharing of photos taken during LAS events.
- 7.8 An online payment system was set-up using PayPal to collect the LAS membership fees electronically. The system may be launched to all members once it is endorsed by members at next AGM.

# REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

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## Professional Development Scheme (PDS) Board

The PDS Board was set up in 2008.

### Board Members:

Chairperson:	Ms Sylvia Yap
Members:	Mr Choy Fatt Cheong
	Mr Idris Rashid
	Ms Ngian Lek Choh
	Ms Puspa Yeow
	Ms Kim-Chew Ah-Too

### Terms of Reference:

1. Examine and approve PDS applications for endorsement by LAS Council.
2. Review and approve changes to the PDS scheme.

## PDS Working Committee

### Committee Members:

Chairperson:	Mr Choy Fatt Cheong
Members:	Ms Ong Juey Ming
	Ms Kim-Chew Ah-Too
	Ms Veronica Boudville
	Ms Lee Wei Wei

### Terms of Reference:

1. Manage the submission process for PDS applications.
2. Examine PDS applications and check for award eligibility.
3. Advise applicants on details of their submission and suggest revisions.
4. Prepare list of applications for examination by PDS Board.
5. Manage PDS website

# REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

## Activities in 2009

The Professional Development Scheme (PDS) has been successfully implemented in 2009 after more than 2 years of discussion and preparation. 136 members were awarded the status of Practicing Professionals (PP) under the inaugural implementation which ended in Dec 2009. All applications were examined by the PDS Board and openly scrutinized by members. The total number of PPs is 43% of eligible LAS membership. Their names and the status expiry dates are listed in the LAS Website. It is also heartening to note that 2 retirees, Mrs Dora Yeo and Ms Chan Chew Ee also submitted their PDS application and became PPs.

The scheme was also well supported by libraries and institutions as shown in the distribution chart of PPs according to their institutions.

	Institutions	No. of PP	%tage of total
1.	National University of Singapore	50	37%
2.	Nanyang Technological University	35	26%
3.	National Library Board	30	22%
4.	Singapore Polytechnic	7	5%
5.	Temasek Polytechnic	10	7%
6.	Nanyang Polytechnic	1	1%
7.	National Institute of Education	1	1%
8.	Others	2	1%
	TOTAL	136	100.0%

The inaugural implementation of the PDS was a valuable exercise as it allowed the PDS Working Committee and PDS Board to work out many details and issues that surfaced during the application process. As a result, a number of rules were amended and fine-tuned gradually. The PDS website at <http://sites.google.com/site/laspds09> provides members with up-to-date information of these changes and also the necessary information regarding the scheme.

An award ceremony was held on 12 Aug 2009 at NLB and the President of LAS, Ms Puspa Yeow presented the PP certificates to successful applicants from the 2008 pioneer batch and the first 2 batches of 2009. The third and fourth batch of successful applicants for 2009 were presented with the PP certificates at the second award ceremony held on 24 Feb 2010 at NLB.

Due in part to the successful implementation of the scheme in 2009, the PDS Board decided to reduce the number of application periods each year as a high number of eligible members have already attained their PP status. From 2010 onwards, there will only be 2 submission award periods – in July and January of each year. Members who are now PP will need to re-apply to maintain their status when their validity period expires.

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## LAS Awards Panel

The LAS Awards Panel was set up in 2006.

### Panel Members:

Chairperson:	Mr Joseph Kennedy
Members:	Mr Scott Davidson
	Ms Hazel Loh
	Ms Judy Ng
	Ms Tan Lay Tin

### Terms of reference:

1. To recognize members who render outstanding service to the profession
2. To promote professional growth through the development of grants, sponsorships and scholarships
3. To develop and administer all awards presented in the name of the Library Association of Singapore.

### Duties of Awards panel members:

1. The Awards Panel is responsible for the coordination and administration of the LAS Awards Program.
2. Presents recommendations to the LAS Council on all policies relating to awards given by LAS.
3. Recommends funding from the LAS Council.
4. Drafts the proposal for the awards.
5. Prepares announcements and the terms of all LAS awards and invites nominations from the membership at large.
6. Monitors the progress of the nominating process.
7. Recommends recipients of LAS awards for approval by the LAS Council within 3 weeks after the deadline for application. If a Council member is recommended, they will not be involved in the approval process.
8. Notifies each winner and donor/sponsor when and where to be present for the award ceremony, when appropriate.
9. Prepares and orders the citations, requests award money, and arranges for cheques to be processed prior to awards.
10. Prepares and makes all arrangements for award presentations at the appropriate functions, including letters of invitation to the winners and donors, the script for the President, and photographer (if required).

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11. Ensures all relevant information is available on the LAS website including past winners and information on all awards.
12. Keeps records of important archival material such as statements affecting policy, proposals for awards whether approved or not, correspondence of lasting value, names of the members of Awards Panel, and relevant financial reports.
13. The Awards Panel can co-opt temporary members, after endorsement by the Council, if it is felt that additional members' experience will enhance the fairness and professionalism of the Awards Panel's deliberation for any specific award.
14. Seeks funding from industry partners.
15. Reviews periodically the appropriateness of existing LAS awards; recommends modification, elimination, or suspension of existing LAS awards as needed and makes recommendations with respect to proposed new LAS awards.
16. Maintains the LAS Awards Manual, which includes information for all awards presented by LAS; the Panel shall also maintain the SOPs for administering the Awards Program (such as information concerning deadline dates and publicity releases).
17. Maintains the "LAS Member's Involvement on Councils, Committees and Working Groups: 1955 – Present" on which awards may be based.

## Types of Awards

LAS awards represent four types with the recommended minimum dollar amount as follows:

- a. **Grant** – Grants are issued to encourage professional growth through research or professional development. The minimum recommended amount is S\$2,500
- b. **Recognition** – These awards are to highlight those who have contributed to the library profession in a substantial way according to the specifics of the award. No designated minimum is recommended.
- c. **Scholarship** – These awards are meant to provide individuals with full or partial funding to further their education to enhance themselves and the library profession. The minimum recommended amount is S\$4,000
- d. **Sponsorship** – These awards are meant to provide individuals with funds necessary to experience opportunities for professional growth. No designated minimum amount is recommended.

## Activities

1. The Panel met on 30 April and 11 September 2009. A total of three awards were given under the period under review.
2. NLB nominated Mrs Kiang-Koh Lai Lin for the CONSAL Outstanding Librarian Award, Singapore. The nomination was supported by the LAS Council. Mrs

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Kiang-Koh was presented the Silver Merit Award for her Superior Achievement in the Profession on 22 April 2009 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

3. The Library Association of Singapore (LAS) Gold Medal was awarded to Leow Zheng Yu upon completion of the MSc (Information Studies) at Nanyang Technological University. The Medal is awarded to a graduating Information Studies programme student and is administered by the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, NTU.
4. Nominations for a new award, the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award, were sought for the first time in August 2009. The purpose of this award is to recognize the accomplishments of outstanding newcomers to the library profession and to encourage outstanding contributions throughout their careers. Although, no nominations were received, there are plans to offer the award in the future.
5. Three awards were given at the inaugural LAS Annual Dinner held at the NLB POD on 16 October 2009. Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large and Patron of LAS, was invited to give out the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award to Mrs Rosemary Yeap at the dinner. The Association accorded the LAS Professional Service Award to Ms Sylvia Yap of NUS Libraries at the LAS Tri-event held on 16 October 2009. The Tri-event was also the occasion to launch the inaugural LAS Library School Scholarship, which was presented to Mr Herman Felani bin Md Yunus, NUS Libraries.
6. The Panel compiled a list of recipients of past awards and these will be posted on the LAS website in due course.

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## Library Competency Standards Development Committee

### Committee Members:

Coordinator:	Ms Ngian Lek Choh
Members:	Ms Isabella Trahn
	Ms Kim-Chew Ah Too
	Ms Ruth Pagell
	Ms Susan Song-Lim
	Ms Sharmini Chellapandi

### Terms of Reference :

1. To prepare and complete library competency standards for the library profession
2. To develop courses based on the approved library competencies

### Activities :

1. Set up in May 2008, the team completed the first 5 library competencies for para-professionals at entry-level (Level 2) in Aug 2008. This competency standard documentation was moderated by WDA (Workforce Development Agency) -appointed consultants and approved as WDA compliant competency standards.
2. In early 2009, interested LAS members were invited to come forward to develop the Level 2 Modules based on these competency standards and/or to deliver the modules as trainers. 12 LAS members signed up for this, and 10 of them started to attend the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment (ACTA) course in preparation for the course development in September 2009 and the delivery of modules in 2010. WDA requires both the developers of modules and the trainers who deliver them to be ACTA certified.
3. The course development team will start developing the courses after they have completed the WDA's ACTA courses using the WDA's framework to ensure quality training. This is expected to take till around Jun 2010, after which the courses will be offered to LAS members and the public, with course fee subsidies from WDA.
4. In the meantime, the Committee had started work on developing the competency standards for supervisory level para-professionals (Level 3). Five competency standards in the following areas were drafted :
  - Support general reference and information enquiry work
  - Support collection maintenance

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- Support bibliographic control work
  - Support acquisitions and serials work
  - Provide loans and membership services.
5. WDA will let the Committee know when the WDA consultant will be able to help LAS finalise the Level 3 competency standards for approval at the WDA Steering Committee.
6. Development and delivery of the Level 3 modules will hopefully follow directly on from the approval of these new standards, to round out the offerings available for support staff.

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## Libraries For Tomorrow Fair and Seminar, Annual LAS Dinner

### Committee Members:

#### Project Manager

Gene Tan, VP LAS

#### Sponsorship Sub-Committee

Catherine Tan, NTU

Frank Seah, NTU

Caroline Pang, INSEAD

Chia Wei Fun, TP

Ivan Koh, NLB

#### Marketing and Product Fair Sub-Committee

Soh Lin Li, NLB

Loh Hui Hong, TP

Patrick Pu, NUS

Phoebe Lim, NTU

Sharon Chen, NLB

Chris Koh, NLB

#### Seminar Sub-Committee

Isabella Trahn, NTU

Rashmi Mahadev Lad, NTU

Rama Ravikumar Ramakrishnan, NTU

Han Lee Yen, NTU

Faridah Ibrahim, NLB

#### LAS Dinner Sub-Committee

Sim Chuin Peng, NUS

Tan Shaw Tyi, NUS

Luo Biming, NTU

### Summary Report

“Libraries for Tomorrow” was the theme for the LAS Product Fair and Seminar held on 16 Oct 2009 at the National Library. The theme reflected the focus on creative approaches by the library and information profession towards the future.

The Annual LAS Dinner was held in the evening of the same day, also at the National Library.

The Fair was attended by more than 400 people with about 200 people attending the opening ceremony and the presentations in the morning, and 80 people for the presentations in the afternoon.

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The Seminar was attended by 188 people including 19 guests while the Annual LAS Dinner was attended by 107 people including 21 guests.

The following are the reports from each event:

## Libraries for Tomorrow Fair

Venue: The Plaza, Level 1

Time: 11am – 630pm

The Fair was held at the Plaza of the National Library and showcased latest technology and innovations in the digital environment including the most recent databases and content, and upcoming best practices.

The following were the vendors who provided sponsorship for the Libraries for Tomorrow fair: UBS, Apabi, iGroup and Ariti.

The vendors who exhibited include:

- 1 Proquest
- 2 OnAsia
- 3 Wanfang
- 4 Lexis Nexis
- 5 ExLibris
- 6 Swets
- 7 Alexander Street
- 8 3M

Other vendors who supported the event in kind were Times Bookstores, Cengage and Kinokuniya

LAS and NTU Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information also shared a booth to feature librarianship and to assist participants who were keen to join the library profession and learn about the current vacancies and career options now available in the various libraries. An LAS membership drive was done at the LAS booth, where new benefits and welcome packs were be given to members who renewed or signed up as new members from 2010.

In addition, the Fair also featured a programme of speakers from the National Library Board, OnAsia, ProQuest, WanFang and Ex Libris who

## Libraries for Tomorrow Seminar: Implementing Technological Innovations in Library Services

The half-day Seminar was held at the Pod of the National Library and showcased interesting practices in technological innovations to enhance library services and library management. It was also a forum for librarians to share current trends and challenges in their libraries.

The programme comprised a light luncheon with four paper presentations, five poster presentations and six other posters to be viewed during the luncheon. In

# REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

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In addition, there was a presentation by 3M, the sponsor for the event, and a demonstration.

The four paper presentations covered the development of the virtual union catalogue in Singapore by NLB, an enhanced library database interface by NTU, creation of dynamic subject guides by NUS and services at the Singapore Polytechnic Library.

One of the highlights of the Seminar was the presentation by Ms Ngian Lek Choh, Immediate Past President, of the LAS Professional Service Award to Ms Sylvia Yap Swee Beng, University Librarian, NUS Libraries. Ms Yap was unable to attend the LAS Dinner that evening where the other awards were presented.

## Annual LAS Dinner

The Annual LAS Dinner was held at the Pod of the National Library.

The highlight of the dinner was the presentation of the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award to Ms Rosemary Yeap, former Chief Librarian of Singapore Polytechnic and the LAS School Scholarship Award to Mr Herman Falani bin Md Yunos in support of a Master of Science in Information Studies at the Nanyang Technological University.

The Guest-of-Honour for the dinner was Professor Tommy Koh (Patron of LAS and Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Other guests include past recipient of the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award, Mrs Hedwig Anuar, former Director National Library.

## **Overall Feedback**

The overall feedback was positive with an overwhelming response for all the events. In the limited time that the organizing committee was given, it was admirable how they managed to pull together their contacts and resources across the library world to deliver the suite of three events. The lack of time did result in some areas of improvement such as the venue selection and the resource constraints.

# REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

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## LAS Adhoc Secretariat & Logistics Committee

The LAS Adhoc Secretariat & Logistics Committee was set up in 2009.

### Panel Members:

Chairperson:	Ms Wong Choy Ming
Members:	Ms Koh Hwee Keng
	Ms Ho Mui Huay
	Ms Lim May Ling

### Terms of reference:

1. To provide logistic support for mass mailouts to members and at major LAS events as required.
2. To organise and update LAS Store inventory, particularly LAS commemorative & gift items.
3. To prepare LAS annual report and AGM handouts for distribution.
4. To source for AGM venue, plan and administer AGM logistics.

### Activities:

The committee was formed in August 2009 and has a one-year duration, after which members may be changed to facilitate greater involvement and contribution by other LAS members, particularly associate members, in LAS activities.

Since formation, the committee has helped out to man the LAS booth at the LAS Product Fair in October 2009, re-inventorised the LAS commemorative items in the Store and prepared the LAS commemorative gifts for seminar speakers. 3 rounds of mass mailouts to members with only postal addresses were done. The committee also helped with manning of the LAS@NUS career fair booth in January 2010. Sourcing for possible AGM venues, soliciting of quotations from hotels and preparation of proposal for AGM 2010 was done, with recommendations accepted by Council in January.