



**2022**  
-  
**2023**

**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Members,

I hope that you are happy, healthy, and well.

Things in the new normal have been rather interesting. It was really good to hear that members were able to partake in physical events in the past year. Mental health is still an issue that we are concerned about, but given the prior year where we did quite a bit on it, we let it roll over to a certain extent into the hands of the libraries and organisations to deal with more effectively.

It was an interesting period to be President to be honest. COVID-19 and the trials it brought about with it while escalating and encouraging everyone, including libraries to think broader and more effectively that made this particularly challenging. It boiled down to whether to view it in a positive or negative light as many faced a rollercoaster ride during this time.

As much as I would have liked to turn up for events and meet as many of you as I could like I did when I was Vice-President, unfortunately, it was a tough year for me health wise so I managed to partake only when it was held virtually.

In the meantime, I managed to get publicity for LAS as I was interviewed quite a number of times on CNA938, giving my opinions on a variety of topics. I also managed a few talks and panels (local and overseas) when I was up to it as well.

Most importantly, I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to my Council and all the subcommittees for their efforts, passion, and hard work. As I move into my new role as Immediate Past President and relinquish my role as LAS Awards Chair, I would like to wish the incoming Council only the best as they take LAS to new heights, especially with regards to the inputs received from the focus groups that the Membership and Programmes chairs have been conducting.

I would appreciate it greatly if you encourage your colleagues or even yourself to participate in the various LAS activities, or even volunteer your time. It proved to be very fruitful for me when I joined LAS being absolutely new to the library world.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming AGM that will be held on 13 May 2023. Until then, in the words of my hero, Mr Spock: "Live long and prosper."

Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis  
President, LAS

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2022/2023



Sadie-Jane Nunis  
President  
Superlative She



Tan Chui Peng  
Immediate Past President  
National Library Board



Soh Lin Li  
Vice President  
Asst. Honorary Secretary  
(Covering)  
National Library Board



Lim Puay Ling  
Honorary Secretary  
National Library Board



Ng Hui Ling  
Honorary Treasurer  
National Library Board



Rindra Ramli  
Council Member  
Yale-NUS College



Shameem Nilofar Maideen  
Council Member  
Singapore Management University



Kong Leng Foong  
Council Member  
National Library Board



Noverinda Bella Ratmelia  
Council Member  
Singapore Management University

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Committee Members:

- Soh Lin Li, Chair (covering)
- Gee Miaw Miin

In 2022, LAS membership has a slight decrease of 2%. The table below shows the membership summary as of 31 December 2022. It is back to the same number of members as of 31 December 2021. The total membership count with payment received in 2021 stood at 293. Additionally, a total of 23 new applications were received, where nine of them are Associates and 14 of them are Professionals. The decrease is mainly due to institutions dropping out, while the individual membership has increased.

The membership team conducted a survey with the institutions and its staff in October 2022, with 70 respondents in total. The survey was extended to LAS members and non-LAS members to find out their views about the association and gather new ideas to improve the benefits and functions of LAS. The Programme Chair had conducted a focus group discussion with the representatives in November 2022 to gather more qualitative results. The results will be shared with the incoming LAS Council (2023 to 2025) to determine the next steps forward, especially with regards to attracting and retaining more members.

Members have also suggested to include their Membership Number in the membership portal. The committee is working with the Web and IT Committee to see how to create a unique Membership Number to be displayed for members to retrieve from the portal.

Membership 2022 (by Membership category)

<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>December 2021</b>	<b>December 2022</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Professional</b>	117	122	4%
<b>Associate</b>	34	36	6%
<b>Affiliate</b>	1	0	-100%
<b>Life</b>	97	97	0%
<b>Honorary</b>	2	2	0%
<b>Professional (nonworking)</b>	6	3	-50%
<b>Institution (Libraries)</b>	29	24	-17%
<b>Institution (Schools)</b>	11	6	-45%
<b>Institution (Others)</b>	2	3	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>-2%</b>

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Rindra Ramli (Chair)
- Malarvele Ilangovan
- James Wong Hong Kang
- James See
- Vincent Wong

Summary of activities:

### LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session – April 2022 (Zoom)



On 1 April 2022, the LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session on *Making a Difference in the Digital Age* was held online via Zoom. A total of 145 information professionals attended the event.

There was a plethora of thought-provoking and innovative presentations. The Singaporean librarians who availed themselves to attend listened intently to the various presenters who generously shared about their experiences and best practices.

After the session was kicked off by a video message by the President, Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis, the diverse range of presentations began. Starting off the session, the presenters from NLB shared about the Deposit Portal, the online portal for collecting and preserving Singapore's publications, followed by presenters from NUS who shared how they developed MOOCs. NLB presenter wrapped up the session before the tea break by sharing updates about the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI).

After the tea break, another group of Ngee Ann and Nanyang Polytechnic presenters shared about the polytechnics' Digital and Media Literacy programmes as part of the Digital Life@Polys.

This was followed by NTU presenters who shared the challenges and advantages of getting a certification for their Data Repository. NLB shared how they developed a *Choose your Library Adventure* programme in digital format. Finally, the session was

wrapped up with another group of NLB presenters who shared Metadata Management & Maintenance. The Q&A session proved fruitful as there were numerous queries from the audience.

### **LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session – September 2022 (On-Site)**



The first onsite LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic took place on 30 September 2022. The event took place at the Possibility and Imagination Rooms of the National Library Building.

Around 85 registered for the event, and there were five presentations that shared on the latest developments on *Innovating Library Services in the Digital Era*, including presenters from Nanyang Technological University's (NTU) Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, Singapore Management University (SMU) Library, National Library Board (NLB), and National Institute of Education (NIE) Library.

The session featured two and a half hours of sharing from the various presenters, with a robust question and answer segment. A wide variety of topics were presented, ranging from the latest research on knowledge graph applications and linked data, to utilising service robots to automate workflows and digital readiness programmes for seniors, and even leveraging virtual desktop technology to provide access to financial databases.

The presentations and discussions highlighted how the COVID-19 pandemic continues to play a role in the pursuit of operationalising both new and existing technologies in various Libraries, as well as provide a glimpse into the latest developments that might have increasing impact on Libraries around the world.



## PROGRAMMES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Shameem Nilofar Maideen (Chair)
- Rajendra Munoo
- Chai Yee Xin
- Devika Sangaram

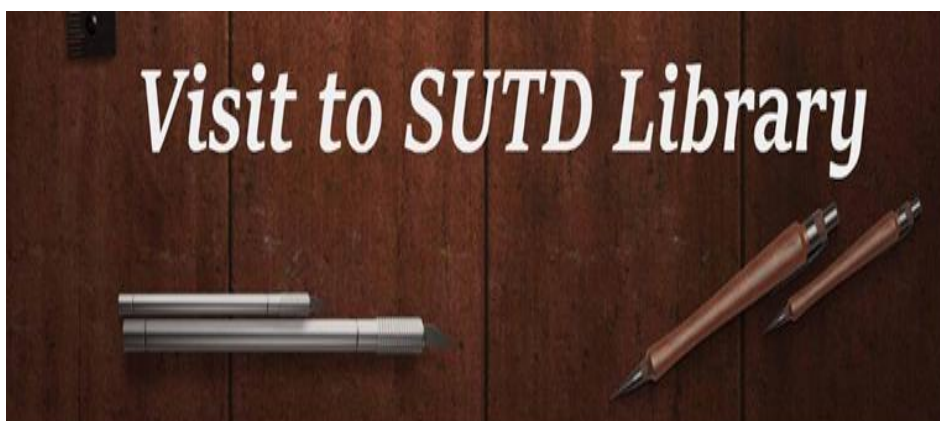
With the rollback of COVID-19 measures in May 2022, the Programmes and Engagement Committee decided to bring library visits back which are a popular draw for our members to reconnect as a community. The following are the key activities organised from May 2022 to March 2023, which did have limitations in terms of numbers, but overall, a success as they provided an opportunity for members to connect face-to-face after almost two years of online interactions.



Our first Library Visit was to Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Libraries In May 2022, to view the newly launched Hygge at Lee Wee Nam Library, a dedicated non-studying wellbeing space for mental relaxation designed to encourage self-expression, self-reflection, and self-care through the experience of calmness and tranquillity. Hygge, also hosted a multi-sensory exhibition, *A Familiar Forest*, till 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022. The tour participants also had the opportunity to meet Temi the robot, NTU Library's inaugural Smart Library Assistant. Eleven members attended the tour.



The second visit happened in June 2022 and this time it was a tour of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) Library. Participants got to hear about how this library established in 1968 serves the research needs of ISEAS researchers as well as scholars interested in the study of the Southeast Asian region. They got to view the unique collections of Southeast Asian related materials in areas encompassing economics, international relations, politics, social, and cultural studies. Ten members attended the tour.



The third Library visit was in October 2022 and this time it was to view the innovative collaborative spaces for discovery and learning at Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) Library. The participants were also given a tour of SUTD Campus which houses unique antique structures as well as their Makerspace FabLab. This was an extremely popular tour and while numbers were initially limited to 20, SUTD Library kindly obliged to increase the capacity to 25 to accommodate all the sign-ups.



Amendments to the Singapore Copyright Act was introduced in November 2021. Based on the positive feedback and the high participant numbers for the copyright talk that was held by LAS in 2021, the committee decided to run another session in October 2022, on copyright which addressed relevant exceptions in the new Singapore 2021 Copyright Act for the academic sector. Library experts from Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) and the National University of Singapore (NUS) spoke on educational exceptions for teaching and learning and their experiences in raising awareness, along with a panel discussion on the new provision which pertains to computational data analysis for text and data mining at Singapore Management University (SMU) Libraries. The session was hybrid with both online and in-person participants. A total of 50 onsite and 230 online participants attended the session and they provided us with a lot of positive feedback.



LAS members were invited to attend a workshop *Where do lonely socks go* organised by Post Museum's Renew Earth Sweat Shop in November 2022 at the de Suantio Gallery. This was a community and participatory art project reacting to the environmental impact and labour conditions linked to the global fashion industry. The project attempted to 'reverse' sweatshops—to become what a sweatshop is not, to counter waste, to rethink labour, and ultimately to renew our earth. LAS members had the opportunity to make sock puppets and other purposeful things from their own sock collection. This was a sustainability initiative and a total of 10 members attended the workshop.



SMU Libraries and The MeshMinds Foundation presented a panel discussion featuring experts and practitioners working in the intersections of art, culture, history, and technology, with a particular focus on Myanmar and the Thukhuma Collection, which is the largest collection of contemporary Burmese art in Singapore. The online discussion was held in January 2023 and a total of 25 members attended the session. The discussion was part of the *Altered States* exhibition at SMU Libraries, which was run in conjunction with the Singapore Art Week.

## PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

### Committee Members:

- Kong Leng Foong (Chair)
- Phoebe Lim Choon Lan
- Charmaine Tan
- Tan Minli, Mindy
- Lo Wan Ni
- Goh Yu Mei
- Nadia Arianna Ramli

### LAS Bulletin

Three articles were published between April 2022 to March 2023.

### Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management (SJLIM)

#### SJLIM Editorial Board members:

- Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis (Editor-in-Chief)
- Kong Leng Foong
- Jamila Osman
- Lim Lee Ping

#### 2022 Volume 48

In 2022, LAS made a call for papers based on the theme *The Post-Pandemic Library Era*. Five papers were submitted and four were accepted for publication. The issue was published in December 2022 on the [SJLIM website](#).

#### Published papers:

- *Forging Ahead with Smarter Implementation in the Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Era @ Lien Ying Chow Library, Ngee Ann Polytechnic*
- *Is the Future of Information Literacy Instruction Blended? Re-Imagining Information Literacy Instruction Post-Pandemic*
- *Post-Pandemic Library Era: Practices at Three Medical Libraries in Malaysia*
- *Towards a Digital Life@Polys™ Framework – Transformation of Digital & Media Literacy in the Polytechnic Libraries in Singapore*

## **LAS AWARDS PANEL**

Panel Chair and Members:

- Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis (Chair)
- Mohamad Karazie
- Natalie Chang
- Vincent Wong
- Raneetha Rajaratnam
- Sumita Govindan
- Manimekalai Thirumalai

The 2022 LAS Award winners are:

LAS Passion Award 2022 is awarded to Ms Zubaidah Bte Mohsen, NLB.

LAS Professional Service Award 2022 has been accorded to Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi, NTU.

LAS-WLIC Grant 2022 is awarded to Ms Raihana binte Hussain, NLB.

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2022 has been accorded to Ms Gulcin Cribb.

There were no other nominations for the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2022 or for the LAS Library School Scholarship 2022.

## **WEB AND IT COMMITTEE**

Committee Members:

- Noverinda Bella Ratmelia (Chair)
- Sun Shengbo
- Samantha Seah Siew Cheng

### **Improvements to Member Portal**

A year has passed since the launch of the member portal, and with member renewals in December 2022, members have been using the portal for renewal purposes, experiencing a relatively seamless process. The portal has received positive feedback from LAS members and council members, and based on their input, we have made several improvements:

- Display membership numbers within the system.
- Display payment and invoice history.
- Display membership type, membership start and expiry date.
- Minor grammar and wording fixes in the automated invoices.

### **Launch of Event Portal**

With the launch of the member portal, we also introduced the event portal, which provides better integration with the membership portal, specifically for member-only events such as the LAS AGM. Members will experience the portal for the first time during LAS AGM registration.

### **LAS Jobs Board**

During the period of March 2022 to February 2023, the LAS Jobs Board (<https://www.las.org.sg/wp/jobs/>) published 49 library or library-related job advertisements, representing an approximately 8.89% increase from the previous period of March 2021 to February 2022, during which the Jobs Board published 45 job advertisements.

## CHRONOLOGY OF LAS

- 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 two new groups were formed due to the Federation government's policy to not 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 the Library Association of Malaya, Singapore Branch, after the merger between Singapore and Malaya.
- 1966** The Singapore Branch became an independent body after Singapore's separation from Malaysia. The Persatuan Perpustakaan Singapore (Library Association of Singapore) was formed.
- 1972** The Association was renamed as 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 award to three winners: Ms Lau Siew Kheng, Ms Manijeh Namazie, and Mr R. Ramachandran, at the Istana Reception on 9 May 2008.
- The Association held the LAS Conference 2008 on the theme *Innovate to Serve* on 8 to 9 May 2008.
- The LAS Professional Development Scheme was launched on 25 August 2008.
- 2009** 136 LAS professional members from the first five batches were given the Practising Professional award under the PDS scheme.



The Association accorded the LAS Professional Service Award to Ms Sylvia Yap at the LAS Tri-event held on 16 October 2009.

The Tri-event also saw the launch of the inaugural LAS Library School award, Scholarship, which was awarded to Mr Herman Felani bin Md Yunos.

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.

## **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.

Launch of LAS first entry level (WSQ Level 2) training programme for library support staff on *Support General Reference and Information Enquiry*. This was the first of the five competency-based programmes which form the WSQ Higher Certificate in Library and Information Services. All 5 modules were developed by LAS and approved by WDA by end 2010.

The 2010 LAS Awards were presented by our Guest of Honour, Dr N. Varaprasad at the LAS Awards Ceremony and Hi-Tea event held on 15 January 2011 at the Rendezvous Hotel.

The Association accorded the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award to Datin Patricia Lim Pui Huen.

The LAS Professional Service Award 2010 was presented to Mr Choy Fatt Cheong.

Mr Nurhazman Abdul Aziz, from NTU Library, became the first award winner of the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award, which was launched in 2009.

The LAS Library School Scholarship 2010 was presented to Ms Samantha Thanh Giang Vu by Ms Puspa Yeow, President of LAS.

Debby Wegener, from TP Library, became the first award winner of the LAS Special Librarian Passion Award, which was launched in 2010.

## 2011

The LAS website was revamped with a fresh design and features that now allow online registration, renewal and payment for both membership and conferences.

LAS initiated a social media presence on Facebook and Twitter (<http://facebook.com/las.org.sg>; [http://twitter.com/las\\_org\\_sg](http://twitter.com/las_org_sg)) in September 2011.

The *Libraries for Tomorrow II* seminar was held on 14 April 2011 at Biopolis using social media tools such as Twitter and SMS to encourage spontaneous interaction at the seminar.

LAS conducted a Rebranding Workshop at the Brunei Library Association for Bruneian librarians, archivists and curators in December 2011. This was featured in *The Brunei Times*:  
<http://www.bt.com.bn/news-national/2011/12/01/workshop-heldlibrary-management>.

The 2011 LAS Awards were presented by the Guest of Honour, Ms Hedwig Anuar at the LAS New Year Bash held on 7 January 2012 at the Rendezvous Hotel.

The LAS Lifetime Contribution Award was presented to Mr Chan Thye Seng.

The Association accorded the LAS Professional Service Award 2011 to Ms Ngian Lek Choh.

Mr Aaron Tay Chee Hsien, from NUS Libraries, was given the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award.

The LAS Library School Scholarship 2011 was presented to Mr Cheng Eng Aun.

LAS expanded its website to manage job postings for the Library of Singapore's community. The website could be viewed at <http://las.org.sg/wp/jobsboards>. The site was launched in January 2012.

LAS participated in the PPM-LAS joint conference in Malacca from 16 to 17 March 2012.

The Committee on Information Studies Programmes and Industry Needs (CISPIN), endorsed by LAS, announced the Terms of Reference and Members to look into the better alignment between the skills and knowledge required by the current and future needs of libraries on 25 June 2012.

*Librarians for Tomorrow* LAS Conference 2012 was held on 25 September 2012 at Biopolis to discuss how librarians would still be relevant in the future. The Guest of Honour was Mr. Lawrence Wong, Senior Minister of State for Education & Information, Communications and the Arts.

## **2013**

*Celebrating Librarians: LAS Awards and Book Launch* was graced by the President of Singapore, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, at Conrad Centennial Singapore and was held on 18 August 2013 in conjunction with IFLA WLIC 2013.

LAS Awards were presented by the Guest of Honour, the President of Singapore, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and LAS President, Mrs Lee Cheng Ean.

The LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2013 was presented to Mr Ramachandran Rasu from National Book Development Council of Singapore.

The Association accorded the LAS Professional Service Award 2013 to Mr Idris Rashid Khan Surattee from Singapore Press Holdings.

Mr V. Somasundram from NTU Libraries, was presented the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2013.

The LAS Library School Scholarship 2012 was presented to Ms Chew Shu Wen from NUS Libraries.

Mr Rajendra Munoo from SMU Library was the awardee of LAS Special Librarian Passion Award 2012.

Celebrating librarians through the stories librarians tell in a commemorative LAS publication *In 99 Words: Stories Librarians Tell*. This special publication was launched on the same evening and complimentary copies were made available to delegates at the Congress, sponsors and participants at the celebration as well as libraries and LAS members.

Launch of *LAS Libraries & Librarians in Singapore* website on 18 August 2013. It is a web community-based project with the objective to achieve an active and easy-to-update directory-like listing of the libraries, librarians as well as library support staff who works/have worked in Singapore. This website is accessible at <http://www.las.org.sg/wp/librariesandlibrariansinsingapore/>

LAS initiated *Love Your Librarian Day* and a celebration with LAS members was held on 15 February 2014.

**2014** The *LAS Executive Library Management Programme (ELMP)* was launched on 3 May 2014 during the LAS AGM 2014. ELMP is organised by the Library Association of Singapore, in collaboration with Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, Division of Information Studies.

The LAS WLIC Grant was launched on 3 May 2014 at LAS AGM 2014 with the generous donation provided by the Singapore National Committee WLIC 2013. The grant aimed to provide LAS members with financial support and opportunities to learn and network as well as to attend IFLA World Library and Information Congress or Satellite Meetings.

*Libraries for Tomorrow* Conference 2014 was held on 14 October 2014 at Matrix Auditorium@Biopolis, OneNorth with the theme *People, Places, Possibilities*.

Ms Janice Chia from NTU Libraries was the awardee of the LAS Passion Award 2013.

The LAS Library School Scholarship 2013 was presented to Mr Jacky Wong Kae Perng from NIE Library.

## **2015 LAS 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

In conjunction with LAS' 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, LAS members participated in two Librarians Give Back activities: *Touching Lives, Making a Difference!*:

- Day activities with Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore (CPAS) was held on 9 March 2015
- Storytelling cum activities to the children with hearing impaired and children with visually impaired at the Lighthouse School held on 12 March 2015

LAS celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cum Love Your Librarian Day at a dinner held at the Concorde Hotel on 18 April 2015. An exhibition that showcase the history of LAS, its role in educating librarians and library support staff, and its participation in international associations and forum was set up. At the dinner, guests and members were treated to a slide show on the 60 years of LAS as well as appreciative stories from the users of various libraries, a skit by the NUS librarians and flute performance by NLB librarian. LAS Grants and Awards were presented by LAS President, Mrs Lee Cheng Ean.

The LAS-WLIC Grant 2014/15 was presented to Mr Rajendra Munoo from SMU Library.

Mr Feng Yikang from NUS Libraries was the awardee of the LAS Overseas Professional Development Sponsorship 2014/15.

The LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2014 was presented to Ms Wee Joo Gim.

Ms Khoo Ai Ling from Singapore Polytechnic Library was the awardee of the LAS Passion Award 2014.

Ms Low Jiaxin from SMU Library was presented the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2014.

The LAS Library School Scholarship 2014 was presented to Ms Dong Danping from SUTD Library.

LAS President, Mrs Judy Ng represented LAS at the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL XVI) during 9 to 14 June 2015 at BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand and presented a report on Singapore Libraries.

Mrs Judy Ng and Ms Chew Shu Wen attended the BSLA Pre-CONSAL: *Leadership for Young Promising Librarians to Build Stronger Library Associations in ASEAN Countries* in Bangkok, Thailand on 8 and 9 June 2015. The Workshop will be hosted by Thai Library Association and jointly organised by IFLA, Brunei Darussalam Library Association, and the IFLA Regional Office (Asia and Oceania).

Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM) held the *Celebrating PPM's 60 Years (1955-2015): Diamond Jubilee Conference on Librarians for the Cyber World* from 14 to 15 September 2015 at Pullman Hotel, Bangsar,

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Mrs Judy Ng attended the celebration together with Ms Samantha Ang (LAS Vice-President), Mr Edward Lim (LAS Council Member), and Mr Jacky Wong (LAS Council Member).

Mrs Judy Ng presented a paper entitled *Changing roles of librarians and information professional in a knowledge-based society* at the *Celebrating PPM's 60 Years (1955-2015): Diamond Jubilee Conference on Librarians for the Cyber World*.

## **2016**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2015

Ms Chng Kim See received the prestigious Lifetime Contribution Award for her strong contributions and service in the LAS Council and various committees / working groups over a span of 13 years.

LAS Professional Service Award 2015

Mr Aaron Tay, SMU Libraries was awarded the Professional Service Award for his strong contributions to the profession and in generously sharing his knowledge, ideas and thoughts in various areas with colleagues in Singapore and globally.

LAS Passion Award 2015

Mr Ian Yap, NLB was awarded the Passion Award for his dedication to the profession and service to community through his role in nationwide programmes and organisation of events at an international level at NLB.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2015

Mr Hedren Sum was awarded the Outstanding Newcomer Award for his notable accomplishments at NTU Libraries in a short time.

LAS Library School Scholarship 2015

Ms Valerio Sheryl Hanalee Pascual was awarded the LAS School Scholarship.

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship

Ms Chow Chai Khim, NUS Libraries was the recipient of the Sponsorship.

She attended the *8<sup>th</sup> Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference (QQML 2016): Exploring Trends and Challenges on Building the Future Libraries* from 24 to 27 May 2016 held in London, UK.

LAS –WLIC Grant

Ms Joan Wee, NTU Libraries was the recipient of the Grant. She attended the 2016 IFLA WLIC at Columbus, Ohio from 13 to 19 August 2016 held in Ohio, USA.

### ***LAS Libraries for Tomorrow Conference***

The *Libraries for Tomorrow* Conference 2016 was held on 20 September 2016 at Matrix Auditorium@ Biopolis, and was attended by 320 librarians and information professionals.

The theme *Smart Libraries for Tomorrow: Disrupt and Innovate* was chosen as it signified the dynamic evolution of the information landscape, and the challenges and opportunities present to libraries and information professionals.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), the Library Association of Singapore (LAS), and the Library & Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA).

LAS, ALIA, and LIANZA signed a MOU on 12 October 2016 to collaborate and promote Library and Information sector across the three countries and represent the sector's work at an international level (IFLA). The immediate collaborative effort of this MOU is to run the Library and Information sector Gold Coast Conference in 2018.

### **Executive Library Management Programme (ELMP)**

The second run of the Executive Library Management Programme (ELMP) began on 13 February 2017. The 2017 run accepted 15 participants from National Library Board, Temasek Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Institute of Technical Education, Singapore Institute of Management, and Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine.

## **2017**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2016

Ms. Isabel Yeo I-Sha was awarded the prestigious Lifetime Contribution Award to recognise a retiree who has significantly contributed to the development of the library profession in Singapore and who has represented Singapore on an international level. It is awarded to a recipient identified by the LAS Council.

#### LAS Professional Service Award 2016

Ms. Wong Kah Wei, NUS Libraries was awarded the Professional Service Award. Criteria for this award include strong leadership in the profession, significant contributions to the profession and an active LAS membership.

#### LAS Passion Award 2016

Ms. Raneetha Rajaratnam, NLB was awarded the Passion Award. The award aims to recognise one individual every year for outstanding contributions, commitment and service to the library profession.

#### LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2016

Ms. Shameem Nilofar, SMU Libraries was awarded the Outstanding Newcomer Award. This award seeks to recognise the accomplishments of outstanding newcomers to the library profession and to encourage outstanding contributions throughout their career.

#### LAS Library School Scholarship 2016

There were no applications for this year. The key objectives of the Scholarship are to support and encourage individuals to attain higher education in the library profession and also provide financial support for graduate study in a recognised school of library science, leading to an MLS, M.Sc. (Information Studies) or equivalent.

#### LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship

Mr. Galvin Soh Boon Ming, SMU Libraries was the recipient this year. The Library Association of Singapore has funds for two LAS Personal Members to enjoy a subsidy of up to \$2,000 each to attend a professional development event.

LAS believe that participation in conferences develops professional growth and strengthens our library community. Galvin will be attending the Library Marketing and Communications Conference 2017 in the United States.

#### LAS –WLIC Grant

Ms. Shirley Lim Keh Lee, NLB was the recipient for this year. The purpose of the Grant is to provide LAS members with financial support up to \$5,000 per recipient and opportunities to learn and network at IFLA WLIC. Shirley will be attending the IFLA WLIC 2017 in Poland.



### **Being Part of the IFLA Global Vision Conversations**

LAS represented our Singapore libraries in the IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in June 2017 organised by IFLA Headquarters. Together with the National Library Board, LAS also hosted some 40 librarians from the Asia Oceania region taking part in the same IFLA Global Vision workshop on 28 June 2017.

In addition, two workshops were organised in September 2017 to determine our Singapore librarians' take on what the IFLA Global Vision should be. More than 200 librarians across Singapore's libraries took part in this effort in both the workshops and in the final voting survey.

### **Executive Library Management Programme**

All 15 participants from the National Library Board, Temasek Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Institute of Technical Education, Singapore Institute of Management, and the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine graduated from the ELMP in September 2017.

### **Investment Committee**

A new investment committee was established to help monitor the LAS investments and to advise the Council on matters related to the investment. The inaugural Investment Committee is headed by Scott Davidson and has Cheryl Loo and Seow Hwee Ling as Committee members as well.

## **2018**

### **LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2017**

LAS is privileged to honour Mr Koh Thong Ngee as a pioneering librarian in Singapore. Mr Koh had a career in academic libraries that spanned 32 years. He contributed to the Library Association of Singapore over a period of 16 years. For his dedicated leadership and service to the library profession, LAS is privileged to honour Mr Koh Thong Ngee with the 2017 LAS Lifetime Contribution Award.

### **LAS Professional Service Award 2017**

The Association recognised that Ms Caroline Pang exemplifies the spirit of entrepreneurship, collaboration, and leadership. She has contributed significantly to the Singapore library landscape by setting up three special libraries; Tanoto Library at INSEAD, Library at the National Cancer Centre, and the Medical Library at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine), Nanyang Technological University. She is in the midst of setting up the Heritage Centre for LKCMedicine.

#### LAS Passion Award 2017

The award goes to Mr Feng Yikang from NUS Libraries. Although only having been a librarian for the past four years, Mr Feng Yikang has proven to be an invaluable asset to the library profession, making numerous novel, pioneering, and impactful contributions to the ever-evolving field of digital scholarship. Therefore, Mr Feng was accorded the LAS Passion Award 2017.

#### LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2017

The LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award was given to Ms Lim Hwee Ming. Ms Lim joined Singapore Management University (SMU) Libraries in June 2014 as a fresh graduate from the Nanyang Technological University Masters in Library and Information Science programme. Over the past few years, she contributed to a wide range of activities and services at SMU Libraries, including cataloguing of library resources and supporting all aspects of electronic resources management. She played an active role in the implementation and roll-out of the new Library Management and Discovery System in SMU.

#### LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2017

The LAS Overseas Professional Development Sponsorship goes to Ms Pattarin Kusolpalin, a Senior Librarian with NUS Libraries. She is active in participating in LAS activities. She is committed to improving teaching and knowledge transfer via a data-driven and research-based approach in information literacy. She attended the International Conference on Language, Education, Humanities and Innovation in May 2018.

#### LAS-WLIC Grant 2017

This year's recipient is Mr Edward Lim, who is currently working at New York University Shanghai. Edward was the past LAS Treasurer and also in the Training and Development Committee. He volunteered at the WLIC in Singapore.

#### Library School Scholarship 2017

There were two awards for 2017. They go to Ms Eunice Anthonyraj from National Library Board and Ms Noverinda Bella Ratmelia from the Nanyang Technological University Libraries.

Ms Anthonyraj has made significant contributions to bilingual literacy programmes for the young in Singapore as an Associate Librarian with the Public Libraries (Singapore).

The second recipient of the Scholarship Award is Ms Noverinda Bella Ratmelia joined Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Libraries as a full-time paraprofessional while studying part-time for her bachelor's degree in information technology from the University of Wollongong, Australia. After receiving her degree in 2015, she was offered the position of Assistant Librarian at NTU Libraries. She is now completing her MSc in Information Studies at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information in NTU.

### **First ever Speed Mentoring for LAS**

The first ever Speed Mentoring Session (think "Speed Dating" but with senior/junior librarians on opposite sides) for LAS members was done in June 2018 involving six pairs of mentors & mentees.

### **First Asia-Pacific Library & Information Conference (APLIC) Jointly Organised with ALIA and LIANZA**

The APLIC was jointly organized by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), Library and Information Association of New Zealand (LIANZA), and LAS. Held in Gold Coast, Australia from 30 July to 3 August 2018, its organisation started more than a year ago with Council members, Judy Ng, Low Jiaxin, and Phoebe Lim being part of the organising committee. At the conference, President Samantha Ang exhorted conference attendees to do their part, using the Singaporean Kallang Roar and Wave as an analogy of how this can only be done with everyone's cooperation. The Singapore party that supported the event included librarians from NLB, SMU, NTU, and NIE.

### **Professional Development Seminar with SMU**

Jointly organised with the SMU Libraries, the two-day seminar in August 2018 attracted more than 80 participants including overseas librarians from Indonesia and Philippines. Topics discussed include design thinking, data visualisation, and career development. The seminar enjoyed the presence of Lisa Hinchliffe, Professor/Coordinator for Information Literacy Services and Instruction University Library, University of Illinois, who did the workshop on Information Literacy Training and Instructional Design Skills Toolkit.

### **First ever Nature Walk for LAS**

A first of its kind, early Saturday morning on 22 September 2018, a nature walk was held in Labrador Park, where librarians were invited to wind down in nature, with art, poetry and history.

### **First ever Webinar for LAS**

A bold step pioneered through the efforts of the Training & Development committee brought about the inaugural LAS Webinar on 30 November 2018. A total of 67 unique attendees took part in this Webinar. Of which, through the collaboration with the Chinese American Librarians Association, we also attracted 12 overseas librarians to the discussion. Using the WebEx platform, the session managed to yield a 75% media attention-to-attention rating. This is based on the attentiveness of the attendee based on their individual time in the session.

Hosting visiting Indian Librarians from the International Network of Emerging Library Innovators.

Some 30 visiting public librarians under the INELI, India programme visited the Singapore libraries from 12 to 15 November 2018. During their visit, they were given a welcome dinner jointly hosted by the National Library Board and LAS. Several LAS members were also on hand to play hosts to the Indian librarians.

## **2019**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2018

This was accorded to Ms Sylvia Yap.

LAS Professional Service Award 2018

Mrs Kiang-Koh Lai Lin, National Archives of Singapore, was the recipient for this award.

LAS Passion Award 2018

Ms Irine Tanudjaja from NUS Libraries was the award recipient.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2018

Ms Dong Danping from SMU Library received this award.

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2018

Ms Jenny Wong from SIT Library was the proud recipient of this award.

Library School Scholarship 2018

Ms Carmen Wong from NLB received the Library School Scholarship 2018.

### **First round of conversations on LAS vision**

Following the AGM in May 2018, a poll was sent to all LAS members in January 2019 for their opinion on the initial statements. Many suggestions were received on what LAS could consider adopting into these defining statements. The poll results gave a good basis of the sentiments of the members. A focus group held on 23 February 2019 was also done to garner more suggestions and views from members. President Samantha led the discussions with attending members on the mission and vision statements. Through the conversation, the group decided that it was good enough to have just a vision statement that would galvanise members.

The LAS Re-making Libraries Conference 2019 was held on 19 September 2019 at the Lifelong Learning Institute with the theme *Innovate, Connect, and Transform*.

## **2020**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2019

This was accorded to Mr Choy Fatt Cheong, the longest running president of LAS.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2019

Mr James Wong Hong Kang, NIE Library

LAS School Scholarship 2019

Ms Priscilla Lee Kai Ning, Nanyang Polytechnic

Ms Mardhiah Mahamood, National Library Board

LAS-WLIC Grant 2019

Ms Low Jiaxin, Monetary Authority of Singapore

Mrs Yeo Pin Pin, Singapore Management University

***Thank you to the APBSLG (SG) group for sponsoring the following awards for 2019.***

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Professional Service Award 2019

Mrs Lee Cheng Ean, NUS Libraries

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Passion Award 2019

Ms Goh Su Nee, NTU Libraries

LAS Conference *Re-Making Libraries: Innovate, Connect, and Transform*  
19 September 2019

LAS as the official institution overseeing the Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) framework for Library and Information Services May 2020.

## 2021

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2020

Mr Idris bin Rashid Khan Surattee

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2020

Ms Sarah Ruslan, Yale-NUS Libraries

LAS Professional Service Award 2020

Ms Joan Wee Jee Foon, SIT Library

LAS Passion Award 2020

Mr Jacky Wong Kae Perng, NIE Library

There were no nominations for 2020 for the LAS-WLIC Grant category or the LAS Library School Scholarship category.

### **65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative E-book**

In 2020, the committee worked on a special commemorative E-book titled *The LAS & PPM President's Journey: Celebrating 65 years of Librarianship* to celebrate LAS and PPM's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The book was released in May 2021.

### **SJLIM survey**

A survey was conducted in September/October 2021 to find out members' preferences for topics and frequency of publication. A total of 58 people responded.

It was found that reading preferences have relatively similar numbers across topics with the top three being 'Best Practices', 'New Library Technologies' and 'User Engagement'. The top three writing preferences were 'User Engagement', 'Best Practices' and 'Collaborations'. Topics like 'New Technologies' (one of the top three in reading preferences), 'Sustainability' and 'Digital Scholarship' saw a big drop in numbers for writing preferences.

### **LAS-PPM Joint Conference**

LAS-PPM Joint Conference was held virtually on 6 October 2021, chaired by President Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis together with the Publications Chair, Infocomm and IT Chair, as well as the Training and Development Chair

(with this committee) as well as several members from the PPM Association Council. The theme was *Collab | Camaraderie | Commune*. A total of 453 attendees globally attended the online session.

### **Conversations in Transformational Leadership**

In November 2021, LAS invited the community to engage in conversation on different aspects of Transformational Leadership.

The first speaker Mr. Gene Tan, Assistant Chief Executive, NLB, shared the recently launched *Libraries and Archives Blueprint 2025* (LAB25), a blueprint for a five-year transformational journey to reimagine libraries and archives through innovation and experimentation with partners and the community.

The next speaker Ms. Kim Underhill, Co-founder of She Brilliance, shared her thoughts on *New Age Leadership* and what it takes to become an Effective, Influential, and Inspiring Leader.

## **2022**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2021

Ms Tay Ai Cheng

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2021

Ms Samantha Seah Siew Cheng, NTU Libraries

LAS Passion Award 2021

Ms Rebecca Maniates, SMU Libraries

There were no nominations for 2021 for the LAS Professional Service Award 2021, LAS-WLIC Grant category, or the LAS Library School Scholarship category.

### **LAS Member Portal**

The rollout of the membership system was previously announced during the AGM 2021. The member portal was to be launched in Q2 of 2021, but due to the vacancy of Membership Committee Chair position, the rollout was delayed to Q4 2021 when the current LAS Vice-President momentarily covers the membership portfolio.

The new portal comes with the following features for members:

- Online membership application
- Online membership renewal
- Members will be able to update their own personal details
- Online payment for new membership/renewals

- Renewal reminder for members
- Automatic invoice for online payment.

It also comes with the following features for LAS Council that will make managing membership much more efficient:

- Dashboard for a quick overview of membership and financial stats
- Easy generation of invoices
- Mass email members (all members or a selection of members)
- Log of all membership activities, including renewals, payments, profile updates, etc).

### **2022 Call for Papers**

A call for papers was disseminated to members and via LAS's social media platforms on 9 February 2022. The theme for 2022 was "*The Post Pandemic Library Era*".

### **LAS Bulletin**

Seventeen articles were published between April 2021 to March 2022. Highlights include the [revamped NUS Libraries](#), [understanding Indian names for cataloguing](#), and the [Pandemic IL series](#).

## **2023**

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2022  
Ms Gulcin Cribb

LAS Passion Award 2022  
Ms Zubaidah Bte Mohsen, NLB

LAS Professional Service Award 2022  
Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi, NTU

LAS-WLIC Grant 2022  
Ms Raihana Binte Hussain, NLB

There were no other nominations for the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2022 or for the LAS Library School Scholarship 2022.