

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020



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Disclaimer: This 2019/2020 annual report was accurate at the time of publication.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

The past year has indeed been fulfilling, especially since we have a newly appointed council and accomplished several milestones. We are pleased to share the annual report of 2019/2020 with the following key highlights.

We took a more international approach with the LAS conference that was held on 19 September 2019 and had about 250 participants (both local and overseas) in attendance. We were fortunate to have speakers from Hong Kong and Philippines and received strong support from council members of the Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM), as well as welcomed a representative from the Ikatan Pustakawan Indonesia (IPI).

As of May 2020, LAS is the official institution overseeing the Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) framework for Library and Information Services. This arose from a review by SkillsFuture Singapore. This allowed for us as a national association for information professionals to ensure that the framework is updated and that there are continuous development opportunities for our para-professionals through these WSQ courses.

We are delighted to announce that we have eight LAS members who are recipients of various 2019 LAS awards. Our heartiest congratulations to the winners for their contributions and commitment to the library profession.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the council and all committee members for their valuable contributions, various engagements with our members, and most importantly, to the information professional community who continues to work hard at finding ways to strengthen knowledge exchange and capability building.

Tan Chui Peng
President, LAS

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2019/2020



Tan Chui Peng
President
National Library Board



Samantha Ang
Immediate Past President
Nanyang Technological University



Sadie-Jane Nunis
Vice President
Singapore Institute of Management



Joanne Koh
Honorary Secretary
National Library Board



Yuan Ye
Assistant Honorary Secretary
National University of Singapore



Gandhimathy Durairaj
Honorary Treasurer
National University of Singapore



Rindra Ramli
Council Member
Yale-NUS College



Fong Ying Yi
Council Member
National Library Board



Kong Leng Foong
Council Member
National Library Board



Zubaidah Mohsen
Council Member
National Library Board



Noverinda Bella Ratmelia
Council Member
Nanyang Technological Institute

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Yuan Ye (Chair);
- Gee Miaw Miin; and
- Sheryl Hanalee P. Valerio.

In 2019, the Membership Committee continues to maintain a dynamic membership base. The table below shows the membership summary as of 31 December 2019. The Professional Membership category remained stable and the total membership stood at 426 as of 31 December 2019.

Membership Category	December 2018	December 2019
Professional	200	201
Associate	92	76
Affiliate	0	0
Life	98	97
Honorary	2	2
Professional (nonworking)	7	5
Institution (Libraries)	27	26
Institution (Schools)	17	15
Institution (Others)	5	4
Total	448	426

Membership Drive for NTU MSc (Information Studies) Students

As a part of the membership recruitment drive, the Membership Chair gave an introductory talk to the new batch of NTU MSc (Information Studies) students. This talk aimed to provide the students with an overall landscape of Singapore's library and information society as well as provide a basic understanding of LAS and its benefits as a member. The 20-minute talk was held on 30 October 2019 at the Pod, NLB.

New PDPC Regulations (1 September 2019)

In compliance with the Advisory Guidelines on the PDPA requirements pertaining to NRIC and Other National Identification that took effect on 1 September 2019, the Membership Committee undertook a thorough examination of the membership database and all the information residing

within it to ensure no NRIC and other National Identification information was collected or recorded in the database. We also worked with the IT Committee to look at the active membership E-forms. All membership related practices and procedures are in line with PDPA regulations.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Rindra Ramli (Chair);
- Eunice Anthony;
- Dong Danping;
- Malar Ilangovan;
- Edward Lim;
- Low Jiaxin; and
- Sarah Ruslan.

Summary of activities:

Your Career: The Now, The New, The Next...

29 March 2019



Fifty LAS members attended this member-only event. Dr Gillian Hallam, an information professional and freelance consultant, gave an insightful overview of the industry and shared her experience working with the LIS professionals in Australia. This was followed by a lively panel discussion with representation across the industry.

Participants participated actively with many discussing specific questions about their own careers. This was indeed a rewarding session for the participants.

Library Carpentry

11-12 June 2019



The Library Carpentry workshop was held at The Arc @ Nanyang Technological University (NTU). The learning objectives of the workshop were to provide participants with a better understanding of the following:

- Automating repetitive, boring, error-prone tasks;
- Creating, maintaining, and analysing sustainable and reusable data;
- Working effectively with IT and systems colleagues; and
- Better understanding the use of software in research.

The workshop was attended by over 40 Information Professionals from various libraries with at least 30 participants from academic libraries, seven from the National Library Board, five from Special libraries (Ministry of Defence, SPH, and SEAMEO Regional Language Centre), and two overseas participants from Duke-Kunshan University in Jiangsu, China, and Monash University, Malaysia.

Data Democracy: How Libraries can Strengthen Users' Data Literacy

20 September 2019



The Data Democracy workshop was held on Friday 20 September 2019 at The Pod @ National Library. The workshop was organised as part of the biannual Library Association of Singapore (LAS) Conference 2019 and was facilitated by Ms Lisbeth Mærkedahl from Dokk1 Aarhus Public Library.

Participants explored various ways to incorporate data democracy and literacy into library services, created their own data story using databasic.io, and shared their data stories with their fellow workshop participants. There was lively exchange of knowledge and views as participants actively engaged in a focus group discussion on what they perceive data democracy or data literacy means to library professionals.

The workshop attracted 28 participants from a range of libraries such as the National Library Board, Institute of Technical Education (ITE), and various tertiary institutions.

Mentoring Programme

October 2019 – April 2020



The second run of Mentoring Programme was held on Thursday 10 October 2019 at the Hive @ Singapore Management University (SMU). It was attended by 15 LAS members. It was a privilege to have three participants from the 2018 pilot mentoring programme, who generously shared their mentoring journey in a fireside chat. They agreed that a mentoring relationship had to be an investment from both parties and emphasised the importance of setting clear expectations right from the start.

Other than having work-related conversations with their mentors, the participants also took the opportunity to discuss librarianship as well as how to better plan out their career path in broader terms. In this increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) world, having a different perspective helps one to navigate life.

Eighty-five per cent of mentees shared that the programme met their expectations and that the mentoring support has inspired them positively in addressing the issues that they are currently facing. All the participants expressed an interest to take part in the programme in the future and at least half of them do not mind being a mentor to other members, or even returning as a mentee, especially if they take on a different portfolio in their career.

Please visit <https://sites.google.com/las.org.sg/tnd/home> to keep abreast of the latest training and development activities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Fong Ying Yi (Chair);
- Edward Lim;
- Phoebe Lim;
- Gee Miaw Miin; and
- Nur Fitri Muhammad Syafran.

LAS Conference

19 September 2019



RE-MAKING LIBRARIES

Innovate | Connect | Transform

19 September 2019 – Lifelong Learning Institute

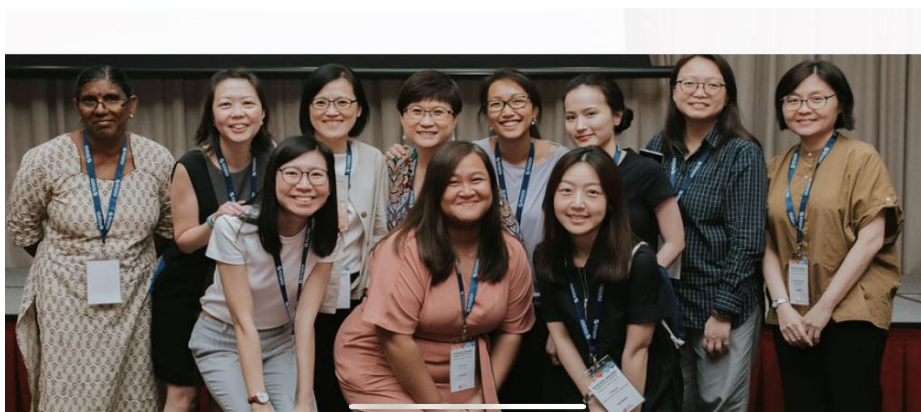
LAS organised a one-day conference with the theme *Re-Making Libraries: Innovate, Connect, and Transform*. We received strong interest from both local and international audiences. There were 15 papers and nine posters shortlisted for the conference across four identified tracks.

We welcomed for the first time, two international speakers from Hong Kong and Philippines, who shared about their professional experiences with conference participants. We also had our keynote speaker from Denmark, Ms Lisbeth Mærkedahl from Dokk1 Aarhus Public Library, give an insightful talk that was much appreciated by the attendees. Her follow-up half-day workshop (see page eight for more) on 20 September 2019 attracted 28 participants.



LAS 2019 Conference Speakers

We appreciate our conference sponsors for their generous support and would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the conference organising committee, as well as extended members and volunteers who came forward to support the event.



2019 Conference organising committee

WSQ Framework for Library and Information Services

Previously, the maintenance of the WSQ framework was jointly held by LAS and the National Library Board (NLB). During a recent review by Skillsfuture Singapore, and in consultation with both NLB and Skillsfuture Singapore, LAS, has assumed the responsibility of overseeing this framework. This will not only allow LAS to update the framework as required, but also to continue to provide support to paraprofessionals.

Professional Development (PD) Scheme

There have been some updates to the eligible criteria after taking into consideration of the current information landscape. Some key changes include allowing webinars to be accepted as a learning event and allowing for up to eight fiction titles to be included as part of the professional reading log. The PD form has since been updated and is now available as an online [form](#).

PROGRAMMES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members (from left to right):

- Zubaidah Mohsen (Chair);
- Rajendra Munoo;
- Jenny Wong; and
- Stephanie Tan.

The committee focuses on engaging LAS members to new developments in the library industry; providing members with opportunities to network and bond over learning activities, and inspire new ideas and innovation.

Visit to Public Libraries by Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM) and Ikatan Pustakawan Indonesia (IPI)

20 September 2019

We hosted members from the Librarians Associations of Malaysia and Indonesian Library Association for visits to the library@harbourfront and Tampines Regional Library on 20 September 2019.



Visit to the library@harbourfront and Tampines Regional Library

This was followed by a discussion between the members of LAS and PPM Councils to chart new directions for future collaboration and cooperation that would benefit members of both associations.



LAS Council Members and PPM Council Members

Walk for Rice

LAS members participated in the annual 'Walk for Rice' event organised by NLB on Friday 4 October 2019, which aimed to raise a total of 20,000 bowls of rice. For every 200 metres (m) walked, it would raise two bowls of rice, one white and one brown to be donated to needy families. There was also the bonus for every 400m walked; one bowl of instant oatmeal will be given to the families. This joint event raised about 13,100 bowls of rice and 3,275 bowls of oatmeal for needy families.

Visit to the Bicentennial Experience

20 November 2019

A visit to the Bicentennial Experience was organised on Wednesday 20 November 2019. On top of a tour of the exhibition, the participants enjoyed a sharing session with Mr Gene Tan, who was the Executive Director of Singapore Bicentennial Office.



It was a lively chat session that went beyond the programme schedule, as the participants were interested in the behind-the-scene work of how the exhibition came about and exchanging views with Gene. We were happy to be joined by LAS pioneers, Ms Sylvia Yap and Mr Chan Thye Seng, who both expressed that they were proud that a librarian charted The Bicentennial show.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Kong Leng Foong (Chair);
- Phoebe Lim;
- Charmaine Tan;
- Mindy Tan;
- Carmen Wang;
- Goh Yu Mei;
- Nadia Arianna Ramli; and
- Lo Wan Ni.

LAS Bulletin

From May 2019 to April 2020, 13 articles were published on the LAS Bulletin, keeping members abreast of the development in the library landscape. These included the series *Get to Know Your 2019-2021 Council Members* and *In Light of Covid-19*, where libraries NLB, SIM, NTU, and NUS shared how they continued to serve their users with their digital offerings during the circuit breaker period. In addition, the LAS Bulletin has been migrated to reside within the LAS main website as of April 2020.

- 13 November 2019
Noverinda Bella Ratmelia
- 3 January 2020
Kong Leng Foong
- 6 February 2020
Sadie-Jane Nunis
- 6 March 2020
Rindra Ramli



Get to Know Your 2019-2021 Council Members

Singapore Journal of Library & Information Management (SJLIM) Volume 47

Published in September 2019



Volume 47 of SJLIM included 14 papers on Information Literacy Research and Practice in Singapore.

- National Library Board's Public Education on Information Literacy: Teaching Citizens to Fight Fake News
- Librarians Joining the Fight Against Fake News: A NUS Case Study
- Transforming Information Literacy Programmes – A Design Thinking Approach
- E-Learning Journey in Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library – Our Experience: A Review on Its Effectiveness and Future Directions
- Delivering Research Skills to All First-year Students: The Temasek Polytechnic Example
- Experiences of NUS Librarians as Lecturers of a PhD Engineering Module
- Flipping Library Instruction: Singapore Polytechnic Library's Experience
- Active Learning in the Classroom: a Review of Legal Research Teaching at Singapore Management University for First-year Undergraduates
- Teaching of Legal Research at NUS Law School
- The Embedded Librarian(s) at the National University of Singapore: The Journey Continues
- Information Literacy: Diagnostics, Interventions and Assessments
- Embedded Librarian at Singapore Polytechnic: A Case Study
- Collaboration on a Research Literacy Module for Project Work
- Trial by Fire, Boot Camps and Brown Bags: How Do We Learn to Teach?

LAS AWARDS PANEL

Panel Chair and Members:



Our heartfelt congratulations to the following well-deserved recipients of the various LAS awards accorded in 2019.

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award has been accorded to Mr Choy Fatt Cheong. This is a well-deserved award for someone who has worked so tirelessly for LAS (longest running president of LAS!) and the profession throughout his illustrious career.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award is awarded to Mr James Wong Hong Kang from NIE Library.

LAS Library School Scholarships are awarded to Ms Priscilla Lee Kai Ning from Nanyang Polytechnic and Ms Mardhiah Mahamood from National Library Board.

LAS-WLIC Grants are awarded to Ms Low Jiaxin from the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Mrs Yeo Pin Pin from Singapore Management University. Given that the WLIC has been postponed for 2020, these recipients will therefore be able to use this grant for WLIC 2021.

On behalf of LAS, we would like to thank the Asia-Pacific Business School Librarians' Group-Singapore (APBSLG-SG) for their generous sponsorship of the following 2019 awards.

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Professional Service Award has been accorded to Mrs Lee Cheng Ean, NUS Libraries.

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Passion Award is awarded to Ms Goh Su Nee, NTU Libraries.

WEB AND IT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

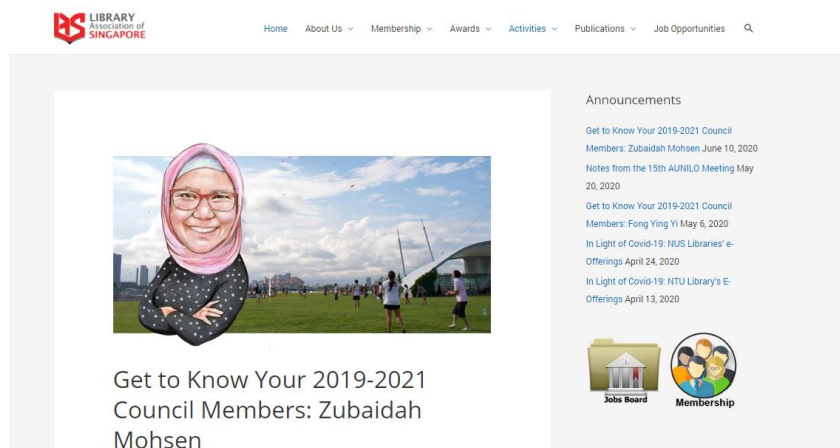
- Noverinda Bella Ratmelia (Chair);
- Jacky Wong;
- Joan Wee;
- Sun Shengbo; and
- Chia Yew Boon.

LAS Website Revamp

The LAS website has been in service for quite some time and as more content was added, the website has become increasingly challenging for users to navigate. The current structure also separates the Singapore Libraries Bulletin, training & development content, and professional development content into mini sites, creating further accessibility barrier to users.

In November 2019, the IT committee embarked on the project to revamp the LAS website to enhance user experience. The key changes are:

- Merging the Singapore Libraries Bulletin site into the LAS main website, providing seamless experience for users as they will be able to view bulletin updates within the main site instead of having to toggle to mini sites;



-
- Bring greater user experience, by making it more convenient to use by ensuring that updates were done to ensure the web content is designed to be device friendly; and
 - Further efforts will be made to the following areas:
 - a. Streamline content structure to be more user-friendly. This will be achieved through merging the professional development content as well as the training and development content into the LAS main site;
 - b. New LAS homepage; and
 - c. Member-only access where members can update their profile on their own plus be able to renew their annual membership online.

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** *Librarians, Strengthening, Moving Forward* was a conference held from 29 to 31 January 2007 that was run by the Association.
- 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 3 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@NLB 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 Two) 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 five 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.

In September, LAS initiated a social media presence on Facebook and Twitter <http://facebook.com/las.org.sg> and http://twitter.com/las_org_sg.

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

2012 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 and posted on <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 a better and more effective 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 Aug 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 Feb 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.

The “Libraries for Tomorrow” Conference 2014 was held on 14 October 2014 at the 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 60th Anniversary Celebration

In conjunction with LAS’ 60th 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; and
- 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 60th Anniversary cum Love Your Librarian Day at a dinner held at the Concorde Hotel on 18 Apr 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 a 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 16th 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 to 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 8th Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference (QQML 2016): Exploring Trends and Challenges on Building the Future Libraries from 24 – 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 13-19 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 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) begun 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 (SIM), 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 S\$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 S\$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 Jun 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

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 Sept 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.

He joined the Nanyang University Library service in February 1960 as a Graduate Assistant in the Chinese Dept. He was appointed Head of Acquisitions soon after. From 1964 to 1972, he was appointed Deputy Librarian. He became the Librarian in 1973 until 1980. When University of Singapore and Nanyang University merged in August 1980, he was absorbed into the National University of Singapore (NUS) Library service and continued as Librarian. In 1983, he was concurrently appointed Head of Chinese Library. He was appointed Acting Chief Librarian of NUS Library from July 1991 and retired in 1992.

Mr Koh was concerned with the development and welfare of support staff in the NUS Libraries. During his tenure he saw to providing a good career path for the library attendants. In particular, he helped to promote a few eligible library attendants to the clerical grade. He also encouraged interracial interactions among staff. Those were the days when the library staff held parties to celebrate important festivals of each ethnic group like Chinese New Year, Hari Raya, and Deepavali. He also worked very closely with and supported the Union representatives in their various welfare efforts. He enjoyed mentoring the young librarians in NUS.

Improving library physical facilities was another area he worked on tirelessly. He was interested in how to better use the limited space the NUS Libraries had and achieved it with small-scale renovations over time. When the NUS Libraries received an additional space, he decided to use the limited space to build a single central storage facility to benefit all the libraries in NUS. With this central storage, each library freed up space to provide more seating areas for the users.

Mr Koh was active in the Library Association of Singapore. He was LAS president from 1973 to 1975. He was active on various LAS committees on censorship, constitution review, copyright, library education, library cooperation, and training from 1971 to 1987.

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 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 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 Novinda 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 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 & LIANZA.

The APLIC was jointly organised 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 attendee's attentiveness which was based on their individual time in the session.

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

LAS Passion Award 2018

Ms Irine Tanudjaja, NUS Libraries

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2018

Ms Dong Danping, Singapore Management University

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2018
Ms Jenny Wong, Singapore Institute of Technology

Library School Scholarship 2018
Ms Carmen Wong, National Library Board

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 facilitated on 23 Feb 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

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