



Annual Report 2017-2018



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FROM THE DESK OF SAMANTHA ANG

PRESIDENT, 2017-2019



Dear members,

This marked the first year of the 2017/2018 LAS Council and I am delighted to recount a few key milestones reached.

The first endeavour arising from the three-party MOU involving ALIA, LAS and LIANZA, is the Asia Pacific Library and Information Conference (APLIC) 2018. This is set to take place from 30 Jul – 2 Aug at Gold Coast, Australia. The conference theme, ROAR, LEAP, DARE, captures the passionate energy of librarians and information professionals and challenges us to step out of the comfort zone and change the status quo. I hope to see our LAS members at this conference!

One highlight for the year was when LAS facilitated Singapore's IFLA Global Vision conversation and gathered responses through two focus group discussions and an online survey. More than 100 information professionals took part in these discussions, gave feedback and comments to the survey. At the forum, when asked "What are libraries exceptionally good at", participants responded, confidently and without hesitation, how libraries ought to continue being social levellers and providing a neutral space for learning. They also voiced on the continued importance to developing and imparting information literacy skills as well as having reading and lifelong programmes..

Another exciting moment was when the Council met on 17 Nov 2017 to do a visioning exercise for LAS. Council members deliberated and charted a course for us to accomplish over the 2 years and beyond. In the area of training & development, we have prioritized the need to engage members to better understand their concerns. Focus group discussions have been planned and I hope many of you will step up and contribute to giving us ideas and suggestions. We also ventured to craft a vision and mission for our association. At the upcoming AGM, we will be inviting members' input to polish these statements and subsequently to endorse them.

My grateful thanks to the Council and members of the various committees who have worked tirelessly to deliver the many association's happenings as well as background work to ensure our members are continuously engaged. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the previous Council officeholders for their guidance and support. Their efforts have contributed to a smooth transition and enabled us to focus on extending their good work.

Regards,
Samantha Ang

THE FACES FOR OUR CURRENT TERM OF OFFICE

ELECTED MAY 2017

COUNCIL MEMBERS



PRESENTING COUNCIL 2017-2019:

L TO R: YUAN YE, KRIST CHAN, JAMI SO (TREASURER), VALERIE SIEW (SECRETARY), SAMANTHA ANG (PRESIDENT), TAN CHUI PENG (VICE-PRESIDENT), LOW JIAXIN, MELODY CHIN, PHOEBE LIM, JACKY WONG & JUDY NG (IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT NOT IN PICTURE)

EXCITING MEMBERSHIP NEWS



7% increase in professional members



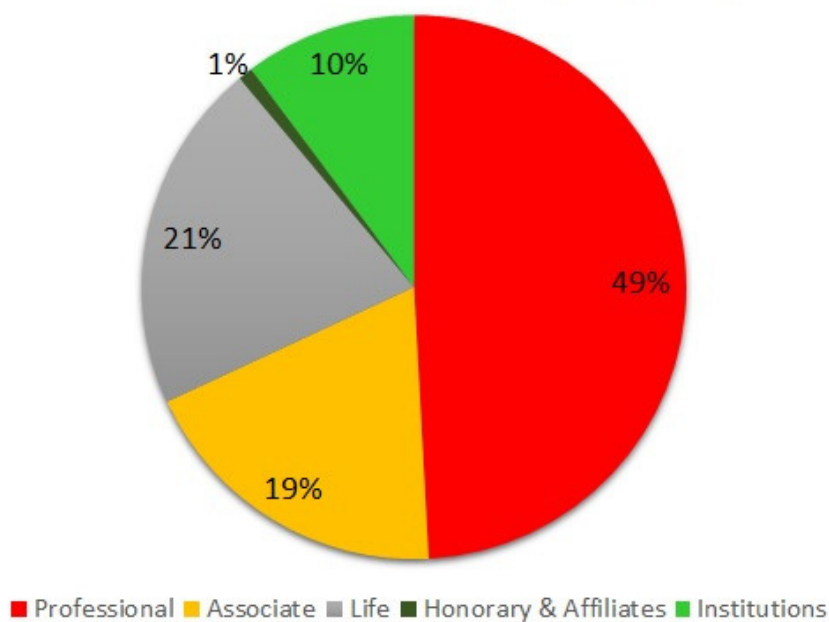
2 membership drives were done in NLB and with NTU's Masters of Information Science students



30 lucky members won a prize for renewing their membership by 31 Dec 2017

Members

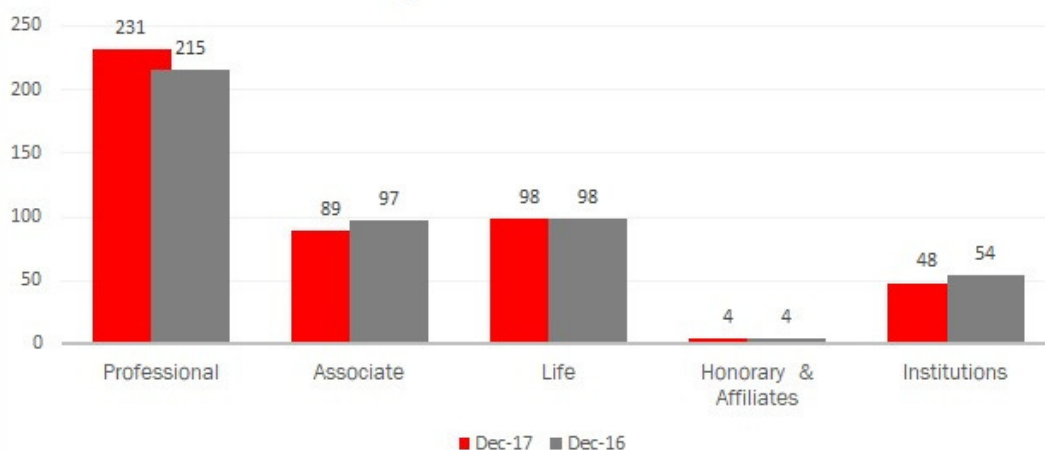
Breakdown in membership types (2017)



As of Dec 2017, the professional membership category continues to be the biggest category in LAS, making 50% of our membership base. These include professionals who have retired.

Membership went up by 7% in the professional membership category. This is good news for us in growing this base.

Membership numbers in 2017 vs 2016






NEWS OF THE YEAR



PRACTISING PROFESSIONALS

As of 30 March 2018, we have 64 practising professionals qualified under the Professional Development Scheme.



SINGAPORE JOURNAL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The latest issue, vol. 47 for 2017, was published in May 2018 with 2 articles.



EXECUTIVE LIBRARY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

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

MEET-UPS WITH INTERNATIONAL LIBRARIANS

LAS represented our Singapore librarians in the IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in June 2017 organised by IFLA Headquarters.

Together with NLB, LAS hosted dinner for some 40 librarians from the Asia-Oceania region taking part in the same IFLA Global Vision workshop on 28 June 2017.




INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

Announcements

LAS AGM

Posted on [Aug 3, 2018](#) by [Administrative](#) (Posted in [Announcements](#))



The great time for our LAS Annual General Meeting is here again!

26 MAY 2018

9.30am to 1.30pm

Venue: Lifelong Learning Institute
11 Eunos Rd 8, Singapore 408601

And what exciting things can you expect this year?





Well, how about getting an update on the great initiatives we had done for the past year, and getting to exercise your vote for a couple of improvements we would like to do for LAS. This year's AGM also includes a special sharing by our previous award recipients on what they have learned!

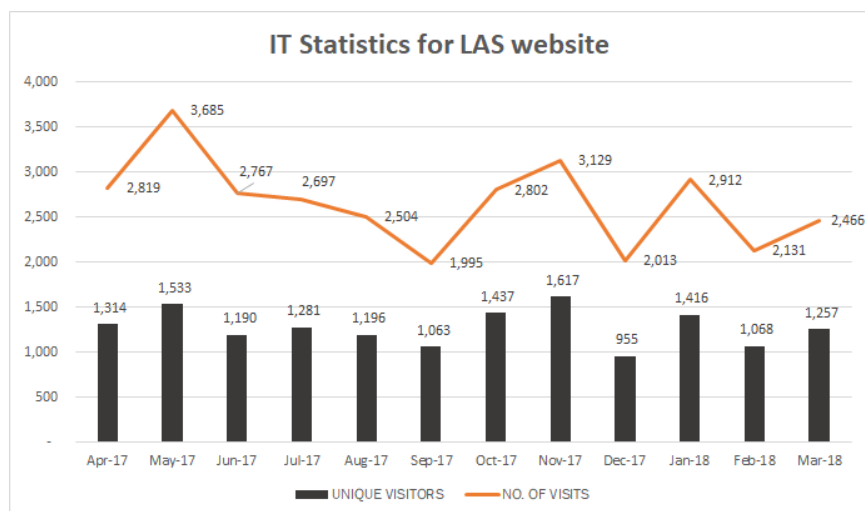
And to top it off, we're even throwing in a special library tour of the 1111 library.

New Jobs Postings

- Associate Librarian - The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library - March 15, 2018
- Executive Circulation - NP Library - January 23, 2018
- Librarian / Senior Librarian - NIE Library - January 22, 2018

Jump To

-  **Jobs Board**
-  **Professional Development**
-  **Singapore Libraries Bulletin**
-  **Library Blog**

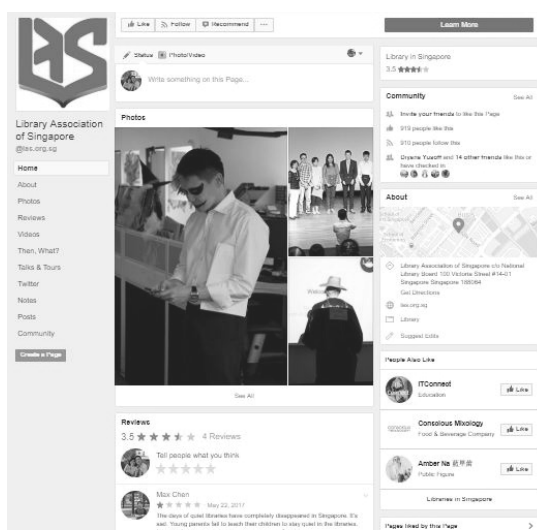


Our IT Committee has been focusing on improving the web safety of our LAS website.

In 2017, assessments were done to ascertain how safe the website is from hacking.

Resulting from the findings, the IT committee is in progress of implementing better safety measures to ensure a safer LAS website. Safety measures relate to providing stronger protection over member's personal data provided through the LAS website against hacking attempts.

Improvements to the website design are also in progress.



WEBSTATS

Total No. of Visits: 30K+

Total No. of Unique Visitors: 15K+

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE



920 likes



635 tweets

CAPACITY BUILDING & BONDING TOGETHER



WORKSHOPS & FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

2 workshops were organised in Sept. 2017 to determine our Singapore librarians' take on what the IFLA Global Vision should be. More than 200 librarians took part in this effort in both the workshops and in the final voting survey

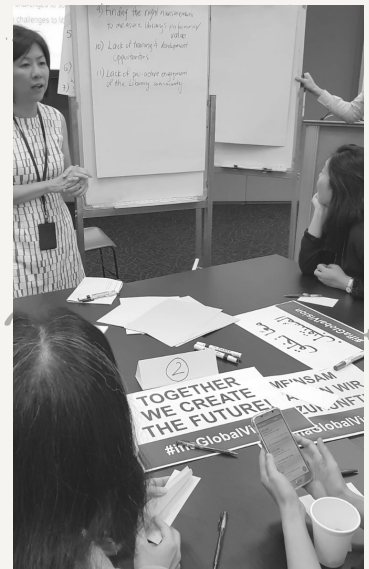
Andy Priestner's UX Workshops in Oct 2017 were well attended by some 40 librarians.

A focus group discussion with 10 mid-career librarian members was held on 24 April 2018.

TALKS & PROGRAMMES

The following were organised for the benefit of our members

- Mr Reinhard Feldmann, Head of the Department of Historical Collections of the University Library of Münster, shared about the latest trends in preservation and conservation in May 2017.
- Taylor and Francis hosted our LAS members to a Royal tea party to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday in June 2017.
- A talk on publishing offered by IEEE was held in August 2017.
- Visits to the Yale-NUS College and the Lee Kong Chian Medicine's Novena Campus (including the Medical Library) were done in May 2017 and March 2018 respectively.
- National Library Board's National Library and Public Library groups generously opened their professional sharing sessions to LAS members on 6 occasions from May 2017 to April 2018. Topics included a sharing on the National Library of China, copyright for librarians and innovation. Each session was well attended by LAS members across institutions.
- Two special training sessions were jointly organised by NLB and LAS on the topics of User Experience (UX) on 27 September 2017 and Data Analytics on 30 March 2018.



PRESENTING

2017 LAS AWARD WINNERS



LIFETIME AWARD

Mr Koh Thong Ngee
Thong Ngee served on the LAS Council and
related committees / working groups for 9 years
over a span of 19 years.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ms Caroline Pang,
Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
Ms Pang demonstrated strong leadership and
service and exemplifies the spirit of
entrepreneurship, collaboration, tenacity and
professionalism of librarians.

PASSION AWARD

Mr Feng Yikang,
National University of Singapore Libraries
Mr Feng has spearheaded innovative projects in
digital humanities and getting library into
research project as collaborators.

PRESENTING

2017 LAS AWARD WINNERS



OUTSTANDING NEWCOMER AWARD

Ms Lim Hwee Ming
Singapore Management University
Ms Lim shows exemplary performance as a
newcomer with her highly motivated, positive and
results focused attitude.

LAS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Ms Bella Ratmelia
Nanyang Technological University Libraries
&
Ms Eunice Anthonyraj
National Library Board

LAS OVERSEAS LIBRARY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPONSORSHIP 2017

Ms Pattarin Kusolpalin
NUS Libraries

LAS-WLIC GRANT 2017

Edward Lim
New York University Library, Shanghai

COMMITTEES 2017-2018

1	AWARDS PANEL	Yeo Pin Pin (chair) Scott Davidson Hazel Loh	Manimekalai Thirumalai Low Ke Khoon Raneetha Rajaratnam
2	BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	Yuan Ye (chair) Iftikhar Hayat Fong Ying Yi	
3	INFOCOMMS & TECHNOLOGY	Jacky Wong (chair) Albert Koey Joan Wee Jee Foon	Sun Shengbo Bella Ratmelia
4	MEMBERSHIP	Melody Chin (chair) Gee Miaw Miin Lim Hwee Ming	Jennifer Chor Khoo Ai Ling Samantha Seah
5	PROGRAMMES & SOCIAL	Krist Chan (chair) Jenny Wong	Nursyeha Binte Yahaya Tan Yu Lin
6	PUBLICATIONS	Phoebe Lim (chair) Kong Leng Foong Justin Tan	Charmaine Tan Lo Wan Ni Mindy Tan
7	SINGAPORE JOURNAL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT EDITORIAL TEAM	Priyanka Sharma (editor) Aaron Tay	Vincent Wong Ronald Milne
8	TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	Low Jiaxin (chair) Chai Yee Xin Chow Chai Khim Dong Danping	Edward Lim Eunice Anthonyraj Malarvele Ilangovan Zubaidah Mosen

- 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 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 8-9 May 2008.
- The LAS Professional Development Scheme was launched on 25 August 2008.
- 2009** 136 LAS professional members from the first 5 batches were given the Practicing 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 5 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 Samatha 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) 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-held-library-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 Aug 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.

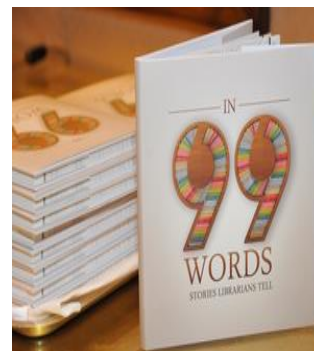
The LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2013 was presented to Mr Ramachandran Rasu from National Book Development Council of Singapore

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

@<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.



“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 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 Mar 2015
- Storytelling cum activities to the children with hearing impaired and children with visually impaired at the Lighthouse School held on 12 Mar 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 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 9-14 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 & 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 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 3 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 and Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine.

2016**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 recognize 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 recognized 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.