



LIBRARY
Association of
SINGAPORE

Annual Report

2015

LAS Annual Report 2015

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OBJECTIVES

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

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

CHRONOLOGY

- 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.

CHRONOLOGY

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.

CHRONOLOGY

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.

CHRONOLOGY

“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.

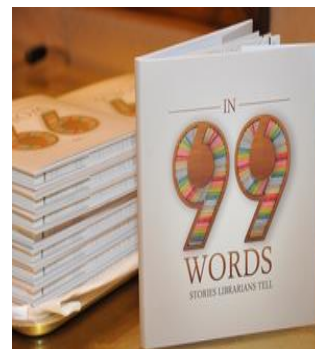
The LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2013 was presented to Mr Ramachandran Rasu from National Book Development Council of Singapore

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

CHRONOLOGY

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.

CHRONOLOGY

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.

CHRONOLOGY

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 is 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".

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear LAS Members,

The Council for 2015/2017 took over on 23 May 2015. We are grateful to the previous Council Members for their kind support and guidance during the handover of duties to the present Council Members.

The Council has identified the following two areas of focus for 2015 to 2017:

- a) **Raise awareness and profile of the profession.** More resources and efforts would be put into raising awareness and profile of the library profession through outreach, and marketing & publicity. LAS continue to connect to the members through the LAS website and social media. During the year, greater emphasis was placed on promoting LAS to staff that have newly joined the profession. I am pleased to share that the overall membership as at December 2015 has increased by 8% as compared to December 2014. This increase was attributed to an increase in Professional Membership by 14% and Associate Membership by 13%.
- b) **Training & professional development.** As the profession evolves, members need to keep abreast of the latest development and challenges that affects the library and information world. Continuous education and professional development are necessary to equip members with skills and competencies to operate in the libraries of the future. LAS supported the continuing education of members by organising activities such as talks and workshops on topics pertinent to the profession (eg. a workshop on virtual reality for libraries and a forum on “Contributions to STEM education”). The library community was encouraged to share at seminars such as the “Seminar on New Trends in Adult Learning: Their impact on libraries”, an event co-organized by NLB and the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia & Oceania (RSCAO) and supported by LAS.

LAS members enjoyed the learning trips that included visits to the National Archives of Singapore, the SPH Information Resource Centre, the NLB's Library Supply Centre, the World Scientific Publishing Company and the Singapore University of Technology and Design Library.

In recognition of the outstanding contributions of members, the Award Panel have evaluated and recommended recipients for the 2015 LAS Awards for Lifetime Contribution, Professional Service, Passion and Outstanding Newcomer. These awards together with the LAS Library School Scholarship, the LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship and LAS –WLIC Grant will be given out at the AGM 2016 on 14 May 2016 at the National Gallery, Singapore.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council Members and all members of the committees for their valuable contributions to the work of LAS.

I look forward to seeing you in the next AGM.

Thank you.
Mrs Judy Ng
LAS President
2015/2017

LAS COUNCIL

President	Mrs Judy Ng
Immediate Past President	Mrs Lee Cheng Ean
Vice President	Ms Samantha Ang
Hon Secretary	Ms Lim Li Sa
Hon Treasurer	Mr Edward Lim
Assistant Hon Secretary	Ms Chew Shu Wen
Council Members	Mrs Fang Sin Guek Mr Jacky Wong Mr Herman Felani Ms Phoebe Lim

LAS COMMITTEES

BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Mr Herman Felani

Members : Mr Cheng Eng Aun
Mr Iftikhar Hayat

Terms of Reference:

1. To engage in promotion and publicity of LAS publications.
2. To solicit advertisements.
3. To manage LAS souvenir and merchandise items.
4. To coordinate all activities relating to donations and sponsorship.
5. To collate market information and identify new products and business.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Members Committee:

Chairperson: Mr Jacky Wong

Members: Mr Kannadasan
Venkatachalam
Mr V. Somasundaram
Ms Joan Wee
Ms Bella Ratmelia

Terms of Reference:

1. To be responsible for the production, access, maintenance and marketing of electronic information on the LAS homepage.
2. To serve the information needs of the LAS Council and members of LAS.
3. To help publicize LAS through the Web.

LAS COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Ms Chew Shu Wen
Members: Ms Georgiana Glass
Mr V. Somasundram

Terms of Reference:

1. Increase LAS membership.
2. Explore opportunities to provide more benefits to members.
3. Manage LAS membership applications and queries.
4. Maintain LAS membership database

PROGRAMMES AND SOCIAL

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Mrs Fang Sin Guek
Members: Mrs Chia Wei Fun
Mr Edmund Lee
Ms Jami So
Ms Jenny Wong Pei Hong
Ms Kam Mi-Kyeong

Terms of Reference:

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

LAS COMMITTEES

PUBLICATIONS

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Ms Phoebe Lim
Members: Mr Justin Tan
Ms Charmaine Tan

SJLIM
Editor: Ms Dianne Cmor

Editorial Board Members:

- Associate Professor Christopher Khoo Soo Guan, Nanyang Technological University
- Choy Fatt Cheong, Nanyang Technological University Library
- Idris Rashid Khan Surattee, Singapore Press Holdings Information Resource Centre
- Gulcin Cribb, Li Ka Shing Library (Singapore Management University)

Terms of Reference:

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

LAS COMMITTEES

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Dr Sim Chuin Peng (Jun to 16 Oct 2015)

Ms Samantha Ang (from 17 Oct 2015)

Members: Ms Flora Bay

Ms Chow Chai Khim

Ms Gee Miaw Miin

Mr Leo Joon Meng

Ms Wu Yao Yao

Terms of Reference:

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

LAS COMMITTEES

LAS AWARDS PANEL

Panel Members:

Chairperson: Ms Hazel Loh

Members: Mr Scott Davidson
Ms Low Ke Khoon
Ms Manimekalai Thirumalai
Ms Yeo Pin Pin

Terms of reference:

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

LAS COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (PDS) BOARD

The PDS Board was set up in 2008 to approve applicants for the award of Practicing Professionals under the Professional Development Scheme. In 2010, Council approved the re-designation of the PDS Board from an Ad-hoc Committee to a Standing Committee of LAS Council. The PDS Working Committee was also re-designated as a sub-committee under the PDS Board.

Since July 2015, the Board welcomed four new members:

- Ms Puspa Yeow (Chair)
- Mrs Judy Ng
- Ms Kan Sok Cheng
- Ms Loh Hui Hong

Much appreciation was given to Ms Sylvia Yap (Chairperson) and Mrs Kim-Chew Ah Too (Secretary) who had selflessly contributed and dedicated their time to the PDS Board since the inaugural Board meeting in Jan 2009.

Board Members:

Chairperson: Ms Puspa Yeow
Members: Mr Choy Fatt Cheong
Mrs Judy Ng
Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi
Ms Kan Sok Cheng
Ms Carol Sim Soek Cheng
Ms Zubaidah Mohsen
Ms Loh Hui Hong

Terms of Reference:

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

PDS Working Committee Members:

Chairperson: Mr Choy Fatt Cheong
Members: Ms Kim-Chew Ah-Too
Ms Veronica Boudville
Ms Ong Juey Ming (Secretary)
Ms Phoebe Lim
Mr Kannadasan Venkatachalam

LAS COMMITTEES

Terms of Reference:

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

ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

5–6 May 2015

The Training and Development Committee organised the WSQ Training “Support General Reference and Information Enquiry Work” with 18 participants and assessment was conducted from 20 – 21 May 2015.

7–8 Jul 2015

The Training and Development Committee organised the WSQ Training “Support General Acquisitions and Serials Work” with 17 participants and assessment was conducted from 22 – 23 Jul 2015.

1–2 Sep 2015

The Training and Development Committee organised the WSQ Training “Provide Loans and Membership Services” with 18 participants and assessment was conducted from 16-17 Sep 2015.

14 Sep 2015

PPM invited LAS members to their Diamond Jubilee Dinner and Council members Judy Ng, Jacky Wong, Edward Lim and Samantha Ang attended the event which was held at Pullman Hotel Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur.

30 Sep 2015

An exploratory workshop on Virtual Reality for Libraries attracted 28 participants. The session was conducted by librarians from the NTU Libraries.

8 Oct 2015

A learning visit was organised for 32 members to visit the National Archives of Singapore.

25 Nov 2015

25 participants attended a sharing session by Rajen Munoo on key learning points and takeaways for the IFLA WLIC 2015, and Ruth Pagell’s talk on “The Institutional Research Rankings’ Landscape through the Eyes of a Library Professional.”

12 Jan 2016

21 participants attended the learning visit to the NLB’s Library Supply Centre.

25 Feb 2016

LAS organised a community service event at the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore (CPAS) at Pasir Ris. 11 members participated in this event.

26 Feb 2016

19 participants joined in the learning visit to the World Scientific Publishing Company.

2 Mar 2016

A learning visit to the SPH Information Resource Centre was attended by 20 members.

ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

1 Apr 2016

LAS and IEEE jointly organised a forum on “Contributions to STEM Education”. The event attracted 20 participants.

8 Apr 2016

A learning visit was organised to the Singapore University of Technology and Design Library for 36 members.

MEMBERSHIP

The table below gives the membership status as of 31 December 2015. Total membership increased to 492 in Dec 2015.

The bulk of the increase in membership numbers came from the Professional and associate categories. This increase outnumbered the decline in Institution (Schools) membership numbers.

Membership Category	December 2014	December 2015	% Change
Professional	212	242	14
Associate	81	92	13.5
Affiliate	1	2	50
Life	99	98	-1
Honorary	2	2	-
Professional (nonworking)	7	6	-1.4
Institution (Libraries)	30	30	-
Institution (Schools)	18	15	-16.7
Institution (Others)	5	5	-
Total	455	492	8.1

FINANCE

The 2015 audited financial statements are presented in Appendix C, which comprise the balance sheet, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds, cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements as of 31 December 2015.

The total comprehensive income for the year after tax is \$8,032 compared to \$84,093 in 2014. The Association's net assets grew to \$629,219 as at 31 December 2014.

The main sources of income in 2015 were Membership Fees (\$37,005), training (\$32,650), Sponsorship (\$9,950) and Donation (\$1,000). The main expenditures in 2015 were for Events (\$28,882), Training (\$27,638), and Awards and Sponsorship (\$8,341).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

The AGM 2015 was held at Concorde Hotel, Singapore, on 23 May 2015 (Saturday). 96 members attended the meeting.

The minutes of the previous AGM were passed with no further amendments.

The AGM received and approved the Annual Report for the year ending March 2015 and the audited accounts for the Financial Year ending December 2014.

Please see **Appendix A** for **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2015**.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council meetings were held on 18 Sep 2015, 27 Nov 2015, 26 Jan 2016, 4 Apr 2016 and 26 Apr 2016.

Two **areas of focus** for 2015-2017 were identified:

Raise awareness and profile of the profession

The Council concurred that resources and efforts would be put into raising awareness and profile of the library profession through outreach, and marketing & publicity:

- Encouraged publicity drive on campus, and organisations which increase the visibility of librarianship to students and non-library staff
- Profiling of the profession and LAS members on LAS website and through social media
- Sharing of LAS activities, learning from trips (local or overseas), and book recommendations

Enhance LAS training and programmes for professional development

The second area was to look at competency-building for library staff by providing online courses for self-directed learning and organising professional knowledge sharing and learning platforms.

Awards and Grants 2015/2016

The Council had endorsed the LAS awards for *Lifetime Contribution*, *Professional Service*, *Passion*, *School Scholarship* and *Outstanding Newcomer*, recommended by the LAS Awards Panel, chaired by Hazel Loh.

The Council had endorsed the *LAS-WLIC* and *LAS Overseas Professional Development* grants and noted that there was no application for LAS-YBP grants for 2016.

LAS Practicing Professional Awards

Based on recommendation from the PDS Board and endorsement from the Council, 31 LAS members were awarded the *Practicing Professional (PP)* status between Jul 2015 and Jun 2017.

IFLA RSCAO (Regional Standing Committee Asia and Oceania) members

The Council hosted 15 members from the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia & Oceania (RSCAO) on 16 Feb 2016, and supported the seminar "*New Trends In Adult Learning: Their Impact on Libraries*" on 18 Feb 2016. The seminar was organised in conjunction with the IFLA Section RSCOA mid-term meeting, and was open to all LAS members.

LAS Libraries for Tomorrow Conference. Council supported the proposal to organise LAS Libraries for Tomorrow Conference with the theme ***Smart Libraries for Tomorrow: Disrupt and Innovate*** to be held on 20 Sep 2016 at Matrix Auditorium@Biopolis. An email to call for papers was sent on 27 Apr 2016 to all LAS members.

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

Business Development Committee

The Business Development Committee is working on soliciting sponsorships for the Libraries for Tomorrow Conference 2016.

An agreement with Raffles Medical Group (RMG) was made in February 2016 in which LAS members are entitled to promotional rates for selected medical outpatient services at RMG clinics across Singapore. This promotion will end on 31 December 2016.

The LAS is a returning official supporter of the Asian Festival of Children's Content 2016.

Information Technology Committee

The LAS website received 33,927 visits during the period May 2015 - April 2016.

Months	Unique visitors (in thousands)	No. of visits (in thousands)
May-15	699	1,953
Jun-15	1,254	3,441
Jul-15	1,229	2,833
Aug-15	1,152	2,733
Sep-15	1,076	2,797
Oct-15	1,058	2,743
Nov-15	933	2,401
Dec-15	952	2,787
Jan-16	1,213	3,316
Feb-16	1,032	2,675
Mar-16	1,167	3,012
Apr-16	1,174	3,236
Total	12,939	33,927

Key online activities for the period May 2015 – April 2016 is as follow:

Online Activities	No
Announcement Postings	15
Job Postings	67
Tweets	8
Facebook Posts	6
Flickr Albums Created	3
Website Updates	4
Website Patches Applied	7
Total	110

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

The Singapore Libraries Bulletin Blog was migrated to a new Wordpress site. The URL of the Bulletin Blog was changed from <http://www.las.org.sg/wp/sjlim/> to <http://www.las.org.sg/wp/bulletin/>.

Two new websites were created in Wordpress, namely the new Library for Tomorrow 2016 conference website and the new LAS website. Existing contents from the websites were migrated to the new websites. The team is currently working with the Publication Committee and the LAS Council on enhancing the website structure, contents and user interface.

Membership Committee

LAS was invited by NLB to introduce the association to the new batch of NTU MSc (Information Studies) students, as part of membership recruitment drive, with a 10 minutes talk on 21 October 2015, Wednesday at The Pod, NLB, and 10 LAS power banks were given as quiz prizes.

See the section on “Membership” for details of membership figures.

Programmes and Social Committee

The Committee organised 9 activities attracting participation from 212 members. Learning visits organised included the National Archives of Singapore, World Scientific Publishing Company, SPH Information Resource Centre, National Library Board’s Library Supply Centre and Singapore University of Technology and Design Library.

An exploratory workshop on virtual reality for libraries conducted by librarians from the Nanyang Technological University was organised for participants to experience Google Cardboard and Ocular Rift. The workshop was part of the deliverables for the team’s LAS-YBP Grant Award (FY15/16) which allowed them to explore acquiring VR content and providing access through the library.

Mr Rajendra Munoo, who was granted travel sponsorship by LAS shared with members his key learning points and takeaways from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, World Library and Information Congress 2015 held in Cape Town. During the same sharing session, Ms Ruth Pagell (Adjunct Faculty, Library and Information Science Program, University of Hawaii at Manoa) provided insights into the world of global institutional rankings, interpretation on rankings and how to help the participants’ institutions find the rankings and metrics that are best for them.

A forum was jointly organised with IEEE on “Contributions to STEM Education.” LAS invited Miss Kan Sok Cheng (Deputy University Librarian, NUS Libraries) to share about her experiences in managing a STEM Library. The event was also supported by iGroup.

In the second year of librarians giving back to the community, LAS members revisited the Cerebral Palsy Alliance at Pasir Ris. LAS sponsored lunch and entertainment for the Centre’s 120 clients. A live band was engaged to sing for the clients and it was a joy to see their happy faces as it was a rare treat for them to have a live band performance.

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

LAS members were given a comprehensive tour of the facilities and intervention programmes provided by the Centre. The tour gave members insights to the special and unique needs of persons with cerebral palsy and how their life can be improved with tailored treatment and programmes.

To develop rapport and improve engagement with LAS members, the Committee encouraged members who participated in the programmes to contribute articles and write-up on their learning visits and events. Articles contributed were posted on the Singapore Libraries Bulletin Blog (SLB) and photographs were shared in the LAS Flickr pages.

Publication Committee

Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management

Ms Dianne Cmor from NTU Libraries has kindly agreed to take up the position of the journal editor.

The Chair together with the editor had made the following changes which have been presented to the Council and Editorial Board:

- Articles sought will focus more on work or research done in Singapore and Southeast Asia in order to highlight, grow and support regional advances in the field.
- Article types can include theoretical articles, applied research articles, case studies, descriptive articles, and substantive professional opinion pieces.
- The editor will seek recognised experts to review articles submitted and not just limit to Editorial Board members.

Singapore Libraries bulletin

The bulletin has been moved from <http://www.las.org.sg/wp/sjlim> to <http://www.las.org.sg/wp/bulletin>. The blog is now mobile-device friendly.

An editorial calendar has been set up to schedule regular weekly postings.

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

Training and Development Committee

LAS WSQ Courses

Month	LAS WSQ Module	Total Individuals Trained
May 2015	Support General Reference and Information Enquiry Work	18
July 2015	Support Acquisitions and Serials Work	17
September 2015	Provide Loans and Membership Services	18
	Total	53

LAS Higher Certificate for Library and Information Services (HCLIS) awarded

Month	No. of HCLIS awarded by WDA
May 2015	5
August 2015	3
Total	8

Other LAS WSQ matters

- The Committee reviewed the WDA Continuous Improvement Review recommendations and has made the necessary changes to address most of the concerns raised in the report. This included the introduction of procedures to collect, monitor and analyse Level 3 outcomes.
- Council is reviewing the running of WSQ Level 2 courses and is considering alternative delivery models such as outsourcing course administration to third parties. The objective is to enable Committee to focus on planning and providing training programmes for librarians.

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

LAS Awards Panel

This is the Panel's 9th consecutive year to oversee the Association's effort to honour its members.

Eight awards were under the care of the Panel during the year. There were recipients for the 2015 LAS Awards for Lifetime Contribution, Professional Service, Passion, Outstanding Newcomer and School Scholarship. The awards will be given out at the AGM 2016 on 14 May 2016 at the National Gallery, Singapore.

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. The award aims 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 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. Criteria for this award include active LAS membership, strong leadership in the profession and significant contributions to the profession.

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 organization of events at an international level at NLB. The award aims to recognise one individual every year for outstanding contributions, commitment and service to the library profession.

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. 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 2015

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

REPORTS OF LAS COMMITTEES

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship

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. This year's application closed on 29 February 2016. Ms Chow Chai Khim, NUS Libraries was the recipient of the Sponsorship. She will be attending 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

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. The LAS supports participation in conferences for our library community to develop and grow professionally. This year's application closed on 29 February 2016. Ms Joan Wee, NTU Libraries was the recipient of the Grant. She will be attending the 2016 IFLA WLIC at Columbus, Ohio from 13-19 August 2016 held in Ohio, USA.

LAS-YBP Library Services Grant

LAS-YBP Grant aims to recognise professional contributions from a librarian or group of librarians who intend to build knowledge, capabilities and promote innovation in technical services/and or collection development of print, digital or electronic resources. The award of \$2,500 is sponsored by YBP. There were no applications received at the close of the submissions deadline of 29 February 2016.

Professional Development Scheme (PDS) Board

PDS Committee received 31 applications in Jul 2015. The Working Committee (WC) assessed the applications; recommendations by the WC were reviewed and approved by the PDS Board on 18 Aug 2015. All 31 applications were awarded PP status for the period of July 2015 - Jun 2017.

This was the second batch of submissions under the revised PDS scheme.

PDS Committee received the next batch of 21 applications in Jan 2016, of which 20 were recommended by the WC for PP status for the period of Jan 2016 - Dec 2017. These were approved by the PDS Board in a meeting held on 21 Apr 2016.

The 20 applications were placed on the PDS website for public review until 9 May 2016.

As at 27 Apr 2016, there is a total of 79 Practising Professionals (including the Jan 2016 batch's) under the PDS scheme.