Building Strong Library Associations
Convening in Jakarta, Indonesia

The Challenges of Libraries in Digital and Technological Age

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Message from Chair RSCAO

by
Dr. Chihfeng P. Lin
Chair, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia & Oceania

Dear Colleagues of RSCAO:

Greetings from Chair of the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia & Oceania.

We had a great Mid-Term Meeting in Kuala Lumpur in February. Despite the sudden and untimely demise of the late Sharif, SC member, our colleagues in Malaysia most ably took over the hosting of the meeting and organised a great event. I wish to extend special thanks to Madam Maimunah Kadir, Acting President of PPM for her leadership and the kind assistance of her colleagues for their great efforts. The meeting was followed by a workshop where invited scholars of the profession discussed and shared valuable topics in research and services. This was held by the University of Malaya with the kind assistance of our SC Member Dr Diljit Singh.

At the meeting, RSCAO’s Programme Committee Chair, Jayshree Mamtora led the team comprising Diljit Singh, Tina Yang, and Rashidah Begum in selecting presenters and keynote speakers for the opening programme at WLIC 2015 in Lyon, France - “Transcending Borders: national, social and ethnic issues.” In keeping with the IFLA WLIC 2014 overall theme of the conference ‘Librarians, Citizens, Societies: Confluence of Knowledge’, a joint session with Knowledge Management Section themed “Knowledge Management Initiatives and Development in Asia and Oceania” focuses on Knowledge Management (KM) initiative and current development in the region addresses the lessons learned, knowledge sharing and knowledge solutions in current status. Colleagues of the Knowledge Management Section also helped to evaluate abstract submissions and selected presenters for the joint session.

“Libraries and the post-2015 development agenda: Access to information is central to development” and we believe can help in improving lives through information services. Colleagues of Asia and Oceania are aware of the responsibility to reduce poverty, inequality, building accountable public institutions, and achieve sustainability and endeavor to achieve “The post-2015 framework”. Libraries and librarians can support at various levels of government agencies. With previous successful experience in regional countries, we especially urge our regional sub-committees to closely follow the framework of the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) programme and help countries in our region to be involved in the programme.

IFLA Trend Report urged members to discuss and provide feedback on the Five Key Trends which will change the information environment:

1) New Technologies will both expand and limit who has access to information
2) Online education will democratize and disrupt global learning
3) The Boundaries of privacy and data protection will be redefined
4) Hyper-connected societies will listen to and empower new voices and groups
5) The Global information economy will be transformed by new technologies. Colleagues of Asia & Oceania are encouraged to input your ideas to expand the range of thoughts and ideas

IFLA HQ has announced the distribution of Stichting IFLA Foundation Grant. RSCAO and the Regional Office are working on the decision to support conference presenters. We expect fruitful sessions in WLIC 2015.

We are also pleased to announce that the RSCAO 2015 mid-term meeting will be held in Japan where our Section Secretary, Dr. Takashi Nagatsuaka will be hosting the event.

My sincere wishes to all colleagues in the region and I look forward to seeing you in Lyon, France in August.
In the previous issue, I said that the best is yet to be. I am heartened many of you contributed articles to share ideas on library development. As a result, we have been able to include a good crop of interesting articles on library trends, best practices and professional development activities.

In this issue, you can find out how the information professionals in the Republic of Palau transform the lives of Pacific Islanders through information sharing. The Philippines showcase the adoption of “The International Cataloguing Principles” and “Resource Description and Access” in its libraries. Also learn from their efforts to archive stories of survivors of the devastated areas affected by typhoon Yolanda.

If you want to know more about the skills for the future for the library profession, and educational standards then the article on the second BSLA regional convening in Jakarta, Indonesia which focuses on education and professional development is a must read. The other article on the BSLA programme in Yangon, Myanmar touches broadly on the role of library associations in society.

Do you want to know how libraries should adjust to the rapidly changing future? How to cope with the reality of everything migrating to the internet? What should librarians do with the emergence of big data and the future of the internet? How should librarians cope with the three challenges facing the libraries of the future? The answers to these and many other issues can be found in the article by Dr Ismail Serageldin’s recent talk on “The Challenges of Libraries in a Digital and Technological Age”.

Be inspired by Dame Lynne J Brindley’s recent talk on “The Future of the Research Library” about how libraries can continue to be an essential part of the information environment in the midst of profound implications for education, publishing and libraries brought about by communications and behavioural changes.

In our increasing efforts to make our newsletter reader-friendly, this issue has a fresh new look and format. We welcome your feedback.

Enjoy!
12th Annual IFLA International Marketing Award Winners Announced

by Silvère Mercier

The IFLA Section on Management and Marketing in collaboration with Emerald is pleased to announce the winners, finalists and top ten projects of the 12th IFLA International Marketing Award for 2014

The award honors organizations that have implemented creative, results-oriented marketing projects or campaigns that promote the library and information services industry. First place goes to the Jiří Mahen Library in Brno, Czech Republic, represented by Libuše Nivnická, for its innovative partnership program, ‘Library in the Tram – Tram to the Library’.

Award Details

The winner receives a cash award of $2,000 and registration, airfare, lodging and other expenses to attend IFLA’s World Library and Information Congress in Lyon, France, in August 2014.

Winners will receive their awards in August at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Lyon, France, time and place to be announced.

Altogether, there were 31 applicants in 4 languages from 15 countries, including: Benin, Cameroon, Canada, China, France, Latvia, Morocco, Russia, Rwanda, and Serbia

Discover all winners, finalists and top ten projects of the 2014 IFLA International marketing award at:


For more details, please visit http://www.ifla.org/node/8562
EBLIDA highlights “The Right to e-Read” on World Book and Copyright Day


EBLIDA’s campaign aims to raise awareness among policy makers and the general public of the difficulties facing libraries trying to provide access to eBooks and other digital content. During the day, EBLIDA will hold two press conferences to draw attention to these issues: one in Brussels in the EU Parliament Library from 11am – 12 noon, and one in the Hague from 5.30 – 6.30pm.

This led in turn to the development of the IFLA Principles for eLending (http://www.ifla.org/node/7418), launched at the World Library & Information Congress (WLIC) in August 2013, to assist library professionals negotiating eBook licences with publishers and resellers. A newly reconstituted eLending Working Group is currently pursuing an update of the 2011 Background Paper.

IFLA believes that it’s necessary for libraries and publishers/authors to agree to reasonable terms and conditions for the library acquisition of eBooks, so that libraries are able to continue to provide access to knowledge and information for their communities. Currently, libraries are grappling with restrictive terms and conditions to provide access to eBooks, and in some instances the withholding of eBook titles from libraries altogether. IFLA believes that if these issues cannot be resolved by negotiations with publishers, legislative reform is needed to ensure eBooks are made available to libraries and archives in all countries under reasonable terms and conditions.


The eLending challenges facing libraries has been a major focus of concern for IFLA and its members for the past few years. In 2011, the IFLA Governing Board appointed a working group to draft a comprehensive Background Paper (http://www.ifla.org/news/ ifla-releases-background-paper-on-e-lending) on eLending, which examined the eLending issues for libraries in different geographical regions, difficult negotiations with publishers and shortcomings in the legal context for eLending.

For more details, please visit http://www.ifla.org/node/8581.
TIB launches AV Portal for Science

by Margret Plank
Competence Centre for non-textual materials
German National Library of Science and Technology

The new TIB AV Portal by the German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB) in Hannover went online today. More than 1,800 quality-tested scientific films from the realms of engineering, architecture, chemistry, physics, mathematics and computer science.

For more details, please visit https://av.getinfo.de/jsessionid=39CD A7FF844B0AF30A0CDA55253F58D5?0

Our AV Portal offers optimised access to scientific films from the fields of science and technology. Computer animations and recordings of lectures and conferences can now be published, located and made available on a permanent basis as easily as textual documents

Uwe Rosemann, Director of TIB

The AV Portal combines the easy, legally watertight publishing of scientific films with professional quality testing, and preserves cultural heritage thanks to digital preservation.

TIB’s Competence Centre for Non-Textual Materials (KNM) started developing the AV Portal in cooperation with the Hasso-Plattner-Institut (HPI), the University Centre of Excellence in Systems Engineering affiliated to the University of Potsdam, in July 2011. Following the successful completion of the development phase, the video platform has now been launched for practical use. TIB’s AV Portal has a clear added value compared to other video portals. Automated video analysis with scene, speech, text and image recognition offers an innovative method of searching for films. The search results are connected to new knowledge by linking the data semantically.

Innovative search in scientific films

The automatic, content-based provision of individual videos at the segment level enables users to search in a targeted, content-based manner: a visual table of contents provides a quick overview of the film content, facilitating access to individual film sequences in particular segments. Spoken and written language within the video (such as voice-overs, lecture slides or logos) is automatically recorded and can be searched for directly. Based on visual features in the film – such as colour distribution – each video is automatically assigned to a genre (such as an interview, a recording of a lecture or an experiment). By adding semantic information gained from video analysis to the data, explorative navigation of the stock can be performed, enabling connections between different AV media to be identified and searches to be conducted using synonyms, keywords and sub-categories. The wealth of visual material stored on the AV Portal will steadily grow over the months and years ahead. As the number of videos stored on the AV Portal grows, the results of automatic provision will continue to improve.

The scientific films will be connected to additional information such as digital full texts and research information via TIB’s portal “GetInfo” (https://getinfo.de/app?&lang=en), widening the search space considerably. Each video segment will also be given a digital object identifier, DOI for short, ensuring its clear, permanent citability. Video sequences can therefore now be cited as easily as texts.

The AV Portal offers users many advantages, such as innovative search, the possibility to access and cite individual segments, the ability to download, license and order films, and cross-media search.

Do you produce scientific films?

Would you like your AV media to be visible on an interregional and inter-institutional basis, and easily available for research purposes? We will help you to make your videos from the areas of engineering, architecture, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics available long-term.

Producers of scientific films can simply upload their video to the AV Portal free of charge. Once the quality of the video has been checked, it is published in a legally watertight manner; indexed according to international standards; transcribed; digitally preserved; and given a DOI name. This ensures that the video is easy to find.

About TIB

The German National Library of Science and Technology (http://www.tib-hannover.de/) in Hannover is Germany’s National Library for all areas of engineering as well as architecture, chemistry, information technology, mathematics and physics. It primarily supplies the national and international research community and industry with literature and information. TIB has an excellent collection of fundamental and highly specialised literature of science and technology. As the world’s largest specialised library in its fields, TIB is responsible for maintaining the knowledge recorded and for providing the latest information for research and development, both now and in the future, irrespective of the time and the place.

GetInfo is TIB’s portal for specialist and research information in science and technology. More than 160 million data sets are currently available. A variety of knowledge objects such as audiovisual media, 3D models and research data are integrated in GetInfo.

For more details please visit http://www.ifla.org/node/8615
Forum on Inclusive Disaster Risk-Reduction

by
Antonio M. Santos
Director
National Library of the Philippines

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and the Assistive Technology Development Organization (ATDO), in collaboration with Region 8 stakeholders, launched a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Forum/Workshop in Eastern Visayas Region after the library mapping conducted earlier in the devastated areas affected by typhoon Yolanda.

Eastern Visayas (Region 8), one of the seventeen Philippines regions is composed of three main islands: Leyte, Samar, and Biliran Island. It has six provinces: Biliran, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Northern Samar, Samar, Southern Leyte,Ormoc City and Tacloban City, the only highly urbanized city, and is considered Eastern Visayas Regional Center (EVRC). These provinces and cities occupy the easternmost islands of Visayas. The region has a land area of 2,156,285 hectares and a population of 4,101,322 people (2010).

In February 2014, Antonio M. Santos, NLP Director, Ms Blesila P. Velasco, Assistant Chief, NLP Public Libraries Division (PLD) and Hiroshi Kawamura, Vice President of ATDO and the Chairman of the Relief International visited the region to determine the damage extent caused to libraries and cull-out stories as a first-hand information on the status of the libraries and librarians who were victims of typhoon Yolanda.

As witnesses to the massive destruction to libraries, the NLP Director together with Kawamura were determined to host a training-workshop that will benefit people living in the community through their libraries. The aim was to address the gap between the people including PWDs and those officials/offices responsible for the welfare of their people. As the key is proper information dissemination, the role of librarians as keepers of information becomes critical.

In March 2014, NLP and ATDO representatives went back to Tacloban City for the DRR Forum Workshop implementation at the University of the Philippines with the theme “The Role of Libraries and LGUs in Disaster Preparedness and Information Dissemination”. It was attended by seventy-five participants, mostly librarians in public, academic, state universities and colleges from the Provinces of Leyte, Samar, and Eastern Samar and officials of the local government units.

Kawamura delivered the forum overview and lectured on the importance of archiving stories. He shared Japan’s experience on how they rose against turmoils; the attitude towards recovery, and the act of archiving stories for others to learn. Ms Hamada presented the Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) on archiving stories.

The forum included hands-on training in using the Plextalk equipment in archiving stories. Seven selected participants representing the local government sectors of Leyte, Samar and Eastern Samar, and librarians from the national, public, state university, and academic libraries were trained to handle and operate the equipment by Ms Hamada. These participants later became the recipients of the Plextalk digital equipment with the task of archiving stories.

The forum was the beginning of a long term plan/project to rehabilitate the devastated libraries. It is hoped that more projects and activities would be implemented soon following the collaborations with other institutions to support the libraries affected by typhoon Yolanda.
Singapore has met or exceeded every conventional benchmark in terms of education of its people. Singaporeans outperform their peers from most nations on most of the conventional tests of student performance. The highly educated work-force has turned little Singapore into a mighty powerhouse of advanced technology and the city into a haven of prosperity. So why worry about the future of education in Singapore?

Three reasons call to mind the necessity of addressing that question:

1. That past policies, no matter how successful they were in meeting the challenges of the past, are not necessarily the best policies to meet the challenges of the future. The emerging global economy will put a premium on problem-solving and inter-personal skills in a vastly expanded services sector.

2. The new generation of young Singaporeans, like their peers elsewhere, is a connected generation. They are growing up with tools of the digital revolution and the allure of the social media taken for granted and part of the landscape of their adolescence. This is having some impact on the skills they value and the way they learn these skills.

3. We are on the cusp of a major transformation in the educational system in terms of content, methods, participation and venues.

In terms of content, we are increasingly aware that the idea of endless repetitive drills undertaken under the discipline reinforced by an authority figure in the classroom setting is not the best way to develop a child’s questioning and exploratory tendencies, their abilities to learn how to learn by discovery and not by rote memorization, and their creativity. These are all the qualities that will be increasingly valued in the emerging globalized economy of the 21st century, where repetitive tasks will increasingly be performed by robots and workers will be valued primarily for their creativity and interpersonal skills in a vastly expanded services sector.

In terms of method, we will rely much less on classroom instruction and much more on guided learning, and self-learning. In classroom settings, there will be flipped instruction. Instead of teachers using the face-time for lectures and then leaving the students to do the problem solving on their own, they will present their lectures in video format which the students can see on their own time (and repeat the parts they want to hear more than once to better understand them) and then use the face-time in classroom for mentoring, problem solving and teamwork among students. Drills will be increasingly in the form of video games challenging the students to solve the problems on one level and move on up to the next, something they enjoy doing.

Although I believe that formal instruction will continue to be important, it will increasingly be supplemented by both guided learning and self-learning through myriad offerings. Driven by curiosity and self-interest, the lifelong learners of the future will alternate between broadening themselves or pursuing hobbies on the one hand, and acquiring marketable skills on the other. The offerings for both will be there.

Participants in the education process will still involve parents, teachers, students, peer groups and the community; but the last two will include virtual as well as physical peers and communities.

The venue, or organizational setting, the schools and universities, will not be replaced by individuals working on computer terminals or on their mobile phones or other technologies, from home or from elsewhere. This is because children need to be with other children of their age, to learn to interact and socialize with peers. Only schools provide the requisite setting for such socialization, an essential feature of emotional development and the formation of effective citizens.

Libraries will become even more important in this period of boundless electronic information of enormously variable quality. Having too much information is as problematic as having too little for those who do not know their subject matter well. Libraries will help by organizing coherent domains of knowledge and sharing in the global explosion of information. They will not be just depositories of books and magazines, but will become essential portals through which learners – and the general public – will be helped to explore the vast and growing resources that will be at their fingertips.

The old model of rigid linear advance through 12 years of schooling, followed by four years of university after which one receives a degree that certifies our entry into the labour force to practice some profession for forty years and then retire, will become totally obsolete. Continuous learning will be more than a slogan; it will be an economic necessity. The market will demand new skills, and an increasingly competitive world will force enterprises to continuously upgrade the skills of their labour force. Singapore as a leader in creating the best education system in the old model can lead the future evolution using the new forms of education that will prevail in the 21st century. And a new generation of Singaporean children will flourish in a system that is driven by their own curiosity and that allows each individual to reach the full extent of their abilities and give back to society to the full measure of their talents.
Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania
Mid-Term Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

by
Dr Takashi Nagatuka
Secretary, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

Matters and activities after the SC meeting in Singapore

The Minutes of Asia and Oceania Section Standing Committee Meetings held on 18 and 22 August 2013 at the World Library and Information Congress in Singapore were confirmed. Takashi reported the important issues as follows:

August 2013: the application for potential host countries for mid-term meeting & seminar for 2014 was called and the joint session with Section of Knowledge Management in Lyon proposed

September 2013: “Transcending Borders: National, Social, and Ethnic Issues” was decided as the theme of 2014 RSCAO Open Session

October 2013: the homepage address of Library Association in each SC Member’s country was collected and the Sub-Regional Chairs were requested to fill in the form of Strategic Plan

November 2013: the schedule of 2014 Mid-Term Meeting in Malaysia was announced to members

December 2013: IFLA HQ approved the two programmes of the RSCAO 2014 open session and the joint session between RSCAO and Knowledge Management. The IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter (Issue 25:2, December 2013) was published

January 2014: A&O Regional Office requested RSCAO Sub-Region Chairs to identify Asia and Oceania Section (AOS) members who are liaising with Sections/Special Interest Groups (SIGs) for collaborative activities and to establish a list of these persons and the Sections/ SIGs with which they are liaising; and target an increase of 30 new regional members (5 per RSCAO Regional Sub-Committee)

RSCAO held its mid-term meeting at the PETRONAS Petroleum Resource Centre of KLCC and half-day seminar in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Librarians Association of Malaysia hosted the event organized by Diljit Singh, RSCAO Committee member who took over the organization of the event following the untimely demise of the late Mohammad Sharif.

At the beginning of the meeting, Chair Chihfeng P. Lin asked for a minute of silence for the late Dr Mohammad Sharif. This was followed by a welcome address by Ms Maimunah Kadir, Acting President of the Librarians Association of Malaysia.

Chair Chihfeng P. Lin welcomed SC Members. Chihfeng welcomed observers in the meeting and conveyed apologies from the following members who were unable to attend the meeting.

By
Dr Takashi Nagatuka
Secretary, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania
Post-2015 Development Agenda and IFLA Trend Report
Chihfeng shared IFLA Trend Report and Ian Yap presented the Slides on the IFLA Trend. The issue on “Access to Information Central to the Post-2015 Development Agenda” were discussed and members requested to help promote access to high-quality library and information services.

Regional Office (RO) Report
Ian Yap reported that IFLA membership for Asia and Oceania Section stands at 328 members and 54 member countries. RO has compiled a database of contacts from the National Libraries and Library Associations in the Asia and Oceania Region. RO has initiated the idea of scanning for news in relation to IFLA’s 5 Key Initiative and members from RSCAO can also contribute to this news alert from the region. The BSLA Convening Workshop would be held in Indonesia, 4 – 7 March 2014.

IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter
Members discussed and decided to continue both the print and digital versions of IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter.

IFLA’s 5 Key Initiatives and IFLA Strategic Plan 2010-2015
Ian Yap presented the Asia and Oceania News Feeds activities countries have done to address IFLA’s 5 Key Initiatives including current issues countries are facing. Members discussed the issues of IFLA Strategic Plan 2010-2015.

RSCAO Strategic Plans for 2013 – 2014
The meeting noted RO’s follow up from the RSCAO Strategic Plan 2013 – 2014 (Draft).

Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP) projects
The meeting discussed the potential proposals and funding for new action for development through Libraries Programme (ALP) projects in Asia and Oceania, 2014 –2015 and the BSLA 2014 to be convened in Jakarta, Indonesia, 4 – 7 March.

Joint Session at the IFLA WLIC 2014, Lyon
The meeting noted the progress on the status of joint session with Knowledge Management Section during the IFLA WLIC 2014, Lyon.

RSCAO Open Session at the IFLA WLIC 2014, Lyon
The meeting reviewed the abstracts for RSCAO Open Session at the IFLA WLIC 2014, Lyon and decided on the speaker list that will be finalized by the RSCAO Open Session Subcommittee.

Satellite Conference on the IFLA WLIC 2015
The possibilities of joint or satellite conference and the theme for IFLA WLIC 2015 were discussed based on a proposal for a 2015 satellite meeting from Peter Lor, University of Pretoria, a member of Library Theory and Research Section.

The 2015 Mid-Term Meeting
The potential host countries for the next 4 years were as follows:

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<th>YEAR</th>
<th>POTENTIAL HOST COUNTRY</th>
<th>RSCAO MEMBERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Takashi Nagatsuoka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>Fawz Abdallah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>M. Al. Mamum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Roza Berdigaliyeva</td>
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The meeting decided to invite application for potential host countries for the RSCAO Mid-term Meeting 2015.

International Seminar at Perdana Leadership Foundation
The International Seminar on Library Consortium & Community Engagement was held at Perdana Leadership Foundation, Putrajaya on 19 February 2014. Dr Zaiton Osman, a past president of the Librarians Association of Malaysia, delivered the key-note speech. Dr Fawz Abdallah and Ms Roza A. Berdigaliyeva, RSCAO members, gave a presentation in each topic.
Building Strong Library Associations Convening in Jakarta, Indonesia

The focus of the second regional convening was on education and professional development. The convening saw the participation by the Asia & Oceania Regional Office.

Beyond education and training, the forty participants comprising two from each of the Library Associations in the Region, i.e. Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pacific Islands, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Singapore were introduced to workshops on building partnerships, the role of libraries in society, planning and advocacy. Participants were encouraged to think strategically on the needs across the region, and in their own countries to strengthen their participation in the international, regional and national development and advocacy agendas and help them to improve the position of the libraries. The convening also included a representative from Goethe Institute (Jakarta), IFLA, National Library of Indonesia and BSLA trainers from across the region.

Participants were immersed in very interactive meetings involving presentations, group work, discussions, mini-poster sessions on various topics and sharing of learning, and practical activities to take back to their respective library associations. The concepts and processes for library associations to review their needs and come up with project proposals that can be submitted to IFLA for funding to support the library association’s capacity and capability development were also introduced. Participants also had the opportunity to share their experiences and strategies and learned from other associations in their region.

By the end of the convening, associations had prepared a draft development proposal to take home to their association for discussion and endorsement to take forward as a project proposal they would like to undertake. Nepal is working to position libraries as a social good, Philippines is seeking government recognition for their services and librarians, and Myanmar is seeking to strengthen partnerships at a time of transition in the country. The national and sector-specific associations of Indonesia have identified the need for a strong umbrella approach and develop joint projects and advocate together. All associations placed strong emphasis on the need to update librarians on IFLA policy and guidelines, and other training, using a train the trainer approach to maximise resources and reach as many librarians across the country as possible.

The IFLA Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) Convening was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, 4 – 7 March

Apart from workshops, the 4-day convening includes practical activities and project planning. BSLA Programme Materials and IFLA’s policy guidelines and how these could be implemented at the national or regional level were delivered.

At the opening session, Director of the National Library of Indonesia Sri Sularsih, emphasized the importance of associations and...
The Asia & Oceania Regional Office was actively involved, for the first time at the convening, as trainers and facilitators to deliver cross countries proposals.

It also agreed to help review and provide pointers on how to improve the participating countries’ proposals to secure funding.

collaboration between library institutions in developing libraries in the country. The National Library of Indonesia also oversees and provides facilities and financial support to national as well as many public, institutional and school library services across the country, spanning a massive geographical area. The support to the Indonesian Library Association is intended to empower themselves to be recognized as one of the prominent associations in Indonesia. She urged IFLA to conduct international and or regional activities in Asia as the country is developing themselves to be one of the prominent Asia countries. These need not necessarily be in Jakarta but could be held in Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, Sumatra, Bali, East or West Nusa Tenggara or any other places in Indonesia. She assured IFLA of her strong support as the National Library Director.

IFLA Governing Board member, Ngian Lek Choh said the vision of library associations, irrespective when they were set up, is to share a common vision to “make our Library Associations stronger each day, so that we can serve our members better, and for our members to serve their target audience better.” She likened the role as one where “We want to bring together librarians and people interested in librarianship to share knowledge, to learn from each other, and develop skills and competencies that help us serve our users better. We also want to promote the importance of libraries and literacy in our country and region to get strong political and financial support, to improve our library infrastructures and services”. The IFLA BSLA programme in Jakarta provided a wonderful opportunity for participants to learn more about how they could each strengthen their organization and capability of their library association and tap on each other’s experience and expertise to learn more effectively.

IFLA Secretary General, Jennefer Nicholson introduced the BSLA programme and IFLA’s work on cultural heritage, the digital agenda, development, and the important role of associations in supporting and advocating for strong library communities. She noted the importance of associations in supporting and advocating for strong library communities. She highlighted the importance of Indonesia as a dynamic, influential country in the region which made it the ideal country to host the Asia and Oceania convening.

Countries in the Asia & Oceanic Region that wish to submit development proposals for BSLA convening and programmes should take note that applications for project submissions will start on 1 April 2014. Project proposals can be submitted to IFLA during the next 1 – 2 years until such a time when the funds are fully utilised.

Malaysia & The IFLA Asia Oceania Section - Historical Roots

by Rashidah Begum BT. Fazal Mohamed
Adviser, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania Section

The 2014 mid-term meeting of the Regional Standing Committee was held in Kuala Lumpur. However, not many are aware that the Section took root in Kuala Lumpur almost 39 years ago and this write up is a brief run-through of the long and continuous association that Malaysia has had with the Section.

The International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users and was founded in Edinburgh, Scotland on 30 September 1927. In 1971 IFLA began a process to look at regional library programmes outside of the developed countries by setting up an IFLA Working Group for Developing Countries. The Working Group was chaired by J.S Soosai, Librarian at the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia (RRIM) and its Secretariat was established at RRIM. The main remit of the Group was to propose a plan for the development of libraries in developing and underdeveloped regions. In August 1975 the IFLA Executive Committee adopted a plan based on regional groupings and this led to the establishment of the Asian Section of the regional activities division.

J.S Soosai from Malaysia served as the first Chairman of the Asian Section from its inception, while the Asian Secretariat was hosted by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur. Soosai served as the Chair until his retirement in 1987. Another Malaysian, Edward Lim Huck Tee, Chief Librarian, Universiti Sains Malaysia served as Secretary of the Section from 1982 till 1984. The Asian Secretariat then moved to Bangkok and after that to Singapore where it is located to this day.

Dr D.E. K. Wijasuriya, Director General of the National Library of Malaysia was elected Chairman of the section in 1988 and served until 1990. The involvement of Malaysia continued in the mid 1990’s with Ms Rashidah Begum Fazal Mohamed, Chief Librarian, Universiti Sains Malaysia, holding the positions of Secretary (1998-2000) and Chairman (2000- 2002), while Dr Dijjit Singh from the University of Malaya and Dr Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad from Universiti Teknologi MARA were elected to the Committee in 2007 and 2009 respectively.

Today, the main objectives of the IFLA Asia Oceania Section are to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and the library profession within the five sub-regions of Asia and Oceania: West Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The Section works in cooperation with the two other Regional sections of Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean all of IFLA’s Sections and Core Activities, especially the Action for Development through Libraries (ALP) Programme.
In the recent National Library Board Singapore Professional Talk Series on 26 March 2014, Dr Ismail touched on the changing world, the future of the internet, and how libraries should adjust to the rapidly changing future.

He said globalization promotes trade and relies on connectivity and is truly changing the world, but it is not homogenizing the cultures. Local identities are being more affirmed than ever. There is more pluralism in established cultures than ever before. Society is changing every day as new dimensions of this pluralism surface. For libraries, the real vector of change has been and will be the ICT revolution and the digital and technological future it is creating. The internet has been one of the most transformative innovations, not just of the last century but probably in the history of humanity.

Most library systems were largely designed in a world where there were no mobile phones or Xerox machines. Computers and PCs were things too far into the future and email was unheard of. That world doesn’t exist anymore. Library systems face difficulty in adapting to the internet with its amazing ability to grow and transform itself and everything around it. The Internet has experienced a million-fold explosive growth. It transcends political boundaries with no concern for who does what. It allows connection at the speed of light across the planet. It has enormous amounts of information. It’s also not just the explosive growth of information and connectivity in the internet, but the new phenomenon called social media and social connectivity. The merger of ever faster internet connectivity, with ever growing social media, mobile platforms, mobile phones and personal platforms that can handle that enormous information connectivity. These create a vibrant, changing, and inter-connected knowledge base that libraries need to recognize and to cope with.

On the emergence of big data, he said people working to manage the enormous volume of information on a scale that totally boggles the mind. Google, Yahoo, Facebook, everybody else are gathering enormous amount of data about everybody. Scientists and corporations are gathering and organizing enormous amounts of data using ever improved data storage and retrieval systems, all of which depend on the internet. The internet coupled with very sophisticated computer programming is making it possible to use these enormous outpourings of data. The development should alarm librarians who are supposed to be the experts on managing of information. Librarians need to rethink what they do as big data is here.

He highlighted the new problem that has developed on the future of the internet. The internet, seen as largely controlled by the US government, where the phone calls listening by the National Security Agency in Washington has led to demands to change the nature of internet governance. Dr Serageldin has been closely involved with these debates, and has just been serving on a panel that studied the performance of ICAAN, and was tasked to look into the future of internet governance. What strikes him was the absence of libraries from that debate. He felt strongly that if librarians were to continue to be the custodians of knowledge and heritage, and the people who organise and make knowledge and information useful, they should play a major role and needed to be involved in a much bigger way.

On the current debate on internet, he thinks there is a need to distinguish between the management of the internet and how to cope with users’ misbehaviour, whether they are governments, corporations or individuals. It should not challenge the fundamental issues that have made the internet a fluid, global, inter-operable, robust and neutral system. On internet governance, he did not think that anyone (except some national governments who seek greater control on the activities of their citizens) would gain anything by breaking up the current global structure of the internet. The breakup of the internet into several internets: one covering north America, one Europe, one china, etc. would not be helpful. It would inevitably lead to problems of inter-operability and ability to communicate. There would also be problems of inter-governmental cooperation and collaboration and negotiation that require adjustment. The fluidity of the single global system would be lost.

Libraries should not be involved in the technical layer that provides connectivity and universal access, and the protocol for internet naming and numbering but, intellectual property rights with issues of creative commons licenses, open access vs digital rights management at the content layer have profound impact on libraries and the kind of services they can offer.
But libraries are absent in the debate. Similarly, libraries are not adequately represented among the stakeholders debating the issues at the social layer. Libraries must be there in the discussions of trust and identity, of confidentiality and privacy of numbers and information received from others, and the issue of human rights, specifically, what can and cannot be done in terms of reaching people.

With the unstoppable coming together of mobile telephony and the internet, the platforms would be smaller. The manipulation by different actors, corporate and scientific and others would affect the enormously expanding connectivity structure and the availability of size and scale of the information. These posed serious challenges to librarians who need to think through and address the issue on the future of information. This is especially pertinent to those in Asia, where the bulk of Internet expansion is going to be taking place in the next 10-15 years.

He suggested three challenges facing the libraries of the future. They have to “cope with the reality of everything migrating to the internet”. The physical books will not be there. On the brighter side, librarians could use technology to bring all knowledge of the whole world to anybody’s fingertips, anywhere in the world. The sheer size of the internet offers opportunities but it raises challenges of storage and retrieval. There are also the issues of technical obsolescence and physical obsolescence, and how to store and handle information. The International Internet Preservation Consortium is addressing these and other challenges on the best way of protecting information on the internet for future generations.

When “everything changes, libraries must change too”. When everything is digital and online, what will libraries be like, and what will librarians do? The MIT committee he was involved in, concluded that there would be no longer be any conventional library reading spaces. The young undergraduates there hardly go to the library. The challenge is to create the spaces they want, to bring them to the library. He cited as example, Steve Jobs who successfully set up the Apple stores where people go to see the actual products, rather than just seeing them online. The desire for human contact are met and they received help from very knowledgeable Apple stores staff to navigate the technology side on how they can better use their gadget and make informed choices.

“Libraries, like Apple store, should have a community space where everybody who wants information will go to”. They will find exhibits, artwork, a coffee shop, and all sorts of things. These activities can be offered in an attractive place with many other things that keep changing as the world changes. In the new world of massive data, librarians have to be extremely knowledgeable on what to do with them as the control of information and indexing are no longer with them.

His take home message for librarians is to “recognise the profound size and scale of the transformations that is taking place”.

On Singapore, he said it has a national depository library, university, research and regional public libraries that creates a national system not just locally but everywhere. “Singapore needs to get these groups of national systems of libraries together to have a major impact on how the internet is going to be governed”. He did not find enough of this in the info-literacy discussions or in IFLA’s education discussions. What is needed is “an agreed international system of IPRs and rules for libraries, inter-library loans, and the management of digital content that does not inhibit the free access to information that people crave”. It can start with connections between international and national libraries, or between specialised libraries. A comprehensive system can then be built from these sets of connections. Although this may sound challenging, he noted that a bunch of geeks did it when they created the Internet. At the time when nobody was paying attention to who’s doing what, they created the system and the system works. And it works so well it’s transforming our world. He acknowledged “librarians have the additional responsibility of promoting the values that nurture community and caring in society, and foster critical thinking. These values will remain even as the world changes”.

**The challenge is to have a vision what they should do as a group, and have much more representation in the debates on the future of the internet because that is how almost all information will be handled in the next generation.**

So, it’s the dawn of a new age, let’s embrace it

Dr Ismail concluded his talk.
Prasanna Ranaweera has been appointed as the new Director of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS), Sri Lanka. He was a Senior Lecturer at the same Institute. Prior to joining NILIS, he was an Assistant Librarian at the University of Sri Jayawardenapura and the National Library of Sri Lanka where he gained 22 years of professional experience in the field. His research interests are in the areas of information literacy skills among the University students, and information center management. He has published several Journal Articles and presented numerous conference papers locally and internationally. A PhD scholar, he holds the B.A. (Hons), Master of Arts, and Masters in Library and Information Sciences. He is a qualified university lecturer, he holds the Certificate of Teaching in Higher Education and the Diploma in Advanced English for Administration and Academic Purposes from the University of Colombo.

NILIS train the human resources required for Sri Lanka’s library and Information management sector. It conducts educational programmes from Certificate/Diploma level to postgraduate and PhD levels, and produces the country’s necessary high quality human resources required for the universities, research institutes, government departments, local government authorities, schools, and other library and information sectors. NILIS also provides continuing professional development (CPD) programmes for LIS professionals in order to update their skills, attitudes and knowledge.

W. Sunil is the Director General at the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) of Sri Lanka. He obtained his first degree from the University of Colombo in 1995 and joined the NLDSB in 1997. He proceeded to do his Masters in Library and Information Science at the University Of Malaya, Malaysia in 2001. Currently he is the Education officer of Sri Lanka Library Association.

The Palau Association of Libraries has been invited to host the PIALA 2014 Annual Conference in the Republic of Palau. Information professionals from across Micronesia and the greater Pacific are invited to gather in Koror from November 10-15 to explore the theme: "Knowledge has the power to transform lives!" proclaimed Pioria Asito, a Library Technician at Palau Community College, when asked about the role that libraries, archives, and museums play in the everyday lives of Pacific Islanders. Information professionals have the challenge of connecting with their communities, of understanding their information needs and goals, and of helping them achieve transformation through information. "Something as simple as getting an agricultural pamphlet into the right hands can have a huge effect," explained David Thompson, the PCC Librarian. "An interested library patron checks out a book about a new cash crop at a community workshop, and the doors open for community transformation."

The Palau Association of Libraries urges any interested individuals to present talks and workshops on topics regarding information and the Pacific but especially invites those who have had experiences partnering with local organizations to promote individual transformations (for example, with small business, agriculture, health, etc.) or those currently promoting community development to participate in this year’s conference program (see “Call for Papers” on the PIALA website). Conference planning committees have already begun to organize the event, including the hosting of monthly fundraisers to facilitate the conference coming together.
The first workshop of the IFLA BSLA programme in Myanmar was held with members of the Myanmar Library Association in Yangon from 13 to 15 January. The workshop was hosted by the British Council, which generously provided both a quality training venue and library staff support at the Council Library, although the MLA was principally responsible for the organization of the workshop overall.

The workshop was attended by 26 people, mostly drawn from the Executive Committee of the MLA, as well as regional representatives from other parts of Myanmar and a number of advisors to the Association. In addition to Dr Michael Robinson as the IFLA core trainer, the workshop was attended by Dr Prachark Wattananusit, Vice President of the Thai Library Association, and Ms Jennefer Nicholson, Secretary-General of IFLA, both of whom gave presentations on the first day of the workshop. By coincidence, the Secretary-General was travelling in Myanmar at the time of the workshop, but was able to participate in the remaining two days of the workshop and provide invaluable support and expertise, based on her experience of working with library associations around the world.

The key themes of Workshop 1 – discussed and agreed with the MLA EC at an IFLA scoping visit in June 2013 – followed the BSLA modules However, much of this content was substantially modified to suit the needs of the MLA, and included many practical activities to encourage contributions from all participants.

Day 1 of the workshop focused on the key issues identified by the MLA, and more broadly the role of library associations in society. It included examples from Thailand and Hong Kong on the aims and activities of library associations, and a presentation by the Secretary-General on IFLA’s role and function.

Day 2 concentrated exclusively on the situation and context of the MLA, and on planning and organizing the objectives and activities of the Association. The participants were involved in conducting a SWOT analysis and in beginning to map out an operational plan of programmes and activities for the coming year.

Day 3 continued the previous day’s programme and included presentations on association structure and governance, the role of committees, and analysis of membership, member categories and the concept of member benefit. The workshop concluded with a summary of the key content, learning outcomes and an action plan for tasks to be completed prior to the second workshop.

This is the first of a possible four workshops to be conducted with the MLA, in addition to a number of other events intended to encourage MLA engagements with other library associations in the region. Dr Wattananusit’s visit was the first such event for the MLA for many years, and it is hoped that greater collaboration with other library associations will be possible in future. The second workshop in the programme is scheduled for June 2014.
The Future of the Research Library

by
Dame Lynne J Brindley
Masters of Pembroke College, Oxford

Sources:
'PA statistics yearbook 2013', The Publishers Association
'Communications Market report 2012', Ofcom
'Communications Market report 2013', Ofcom
'Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report', Ofcom

Let me share with you some recent data from research by the UK media and telecommunications regulator Ofcom providing more background context for the theme of my talk and suggesting some significant behavioural and attitudinal changes in children, our future university students.

Communications and behavioural changes
What we know and are living in is a communications revolution that is fundamentally changing society and economies on a global scale, with profound implications for education and of course publishing and libraries.

Library users, past and present

Let me start with a few quotes:

'I love libraries. I love their purpose, their testimony to the value of learning… And I love their ambience – just the feeling of entering one and seeing the physical evidence of all that learning and erudition and remarking the silence of the studious and the absorbed is to be reminded of the meaning of reverence….'

[David M Kennedy, Pulitzer prize winning historian]

'The British Library is the most wonderful resource. I love the atmosphere, the outside courtyards – I even love the food. And of course all the books in the world at my fingertips'.

[Anthony Horovitz, English novelist, screenwriter]

These powerful sentiments resonate today, at least I suspect with many in this audience. The library is a symbol of the value of knowledge, learning and research; books are a symbol of a civilized society – contrast our recognition through history of examples of destruction of libraries, book burning, intolerance and censorship as mechanisms of oppression and war.

I want you to hold on to the image, and largely the reality of the great physical libraries and the values they embody while we look briefly at the changing nature and speedup of communications over the centuries.

A few more points about 12-15 year olds… the next generation of university students...

They are prolific social networkers with large numbers of friends - an average of 286, and for the first time they are spending as much time using the Internet as they do watching TV, some 17 hours a week on each activity.

They are more likely to go online using a mobile phone, the device they say they would miss more than any other; 62% of them own one and 17% of this age group also using tablets

Further changes in children’s media consumption:

Tablets are becoming the must-have device for children (26% of 12-15 year olds have their own tablet computer – one in eight 3-4 year olds use a tablet computer to go online

Among 8-11 year olds schoolwork/homework is the most commonly mentioned internet activity, followed by games and information

42% of 12-15 year olds say they multi-task most of the time – they watch TV, go online, use mobile phones and tablets simultaneously (media stacking)
This is just a reminder, if we need one, of the massive, speedy and continuous change in the technological and behavioural ecosystem within which our question on the future of research libraries (indeed university pedagogy more generally) has to be addressed. All these activities compete for our attention in a world that can sometimes seem saturated with stuff demanding to be watched, listened to, discussed or reviewed.

What will all this mean for the established forms of engagement? I start with a hypothesis that these digital life habits will increasingly shape study and research habits, and will be carried directly into expectations of universities, of teaching and learning, and of research library provision.

One thing is clear: that ‘one size does not fit all’ and differentiation by discipline, by different user types, and by diffuse mission will be at the core of future strategic options for research libraries – the bookless library is most likely to be found in science and engineering, with professional subjects like law rapidly going fully digital.

**Publishing developments**

What you may ask is happening to publishing and printed book and journal sales?

Figures from 2013 sales in the UK suggest a continuing but not precipitous drop in printed book publications – 6.5% across all types of publishing last year. Over two million UK users joined the digital book market in the first nine months of 2013. A Publishers Association report in February 2014 indicated that ebook sales are booming in the UK and abroad, with growing use of ebooks in the academic market.

**In UK/USA ebook markets are maturing — over 20% of US consumer book market in 2012.**

Just looking briefly at the Bodleian Library’s online catalogue it is clear that there are many thousands of purchased and free ebooks of academic value available to students and researchers, across all disciplines.

Additionally most journals in most disciplines are available online in full text, even if at this stage much of this represents parallel print and electronic publishing. Elsevier Science Direct claims 2200 journals and 26,000 book titles available and Scopus the abstracts and citation database of peer reviewed literature (STM, soci sci, A & H research) gives figures of 50 million records, 21K titles and 5000 publishers represented. The sheer volume of new, peer reviewed publications is already too great for manual review in many fields of study. In medicine, for example, more than two new papers are published every minute.

All this is before you begin to add in Google’s digitized book programme, which claims now some 30 million (from an estimated 130 million unique books of the world) books scanned, albeit that most are only driving search, with snippets displayed, as lawyers still wrestle with copyright and IP arrangements.

Thirty years ago, when today’s senior researchers were in their early careers, big university and copyright libraries could claim to stock printed copies of everything published in a discipline: today, many researchers never need to enter the library building at all and the capacity of any single library, however great, to claim anything like comprehensive coverage in their physical collections is a bygone concept.

**Some challenges for research libraries**

I want now to move to some thoughts on a few of the themes and challenges for the 21st century. Let me offer a personal selection from many possibilities.

I would like to give some attention to the following:

- digital acquisition and archiving
- opening up legacy collections
- open access, data and copyright
- discovery and navigation
- future of the physical library

**Digital Acquisition and Archiving**

After an extended (20 year+) campaign the UK now has a legal deposit law and regulation fit for the digital age. It encompasses digital materials, enabling key libraries to capture and preserve UK digital publications, including Websites, and through implementation will avoid a complete digital black hole of memory of the 20th and 21st century. These are significant new long-term responsibilities and technical challenges to be undertaken in the public interest.

We would be deluding ourselves if we said that we fully understand the technological or policy implications of such long-term stewardship responsibilities, but pragmatically much of the learning will take place by doing, and in partnership between libraries and memory institutions, technologists and users across the globe.

However, it raises wider questions about the future responsibilities of great research libraries for preservation and archiving of digital materials, with or without legal deposit responsibilities. All research libraries collecting personal, political, scientific ‘papers’, seeking to collect unique records of contemporary culture and intellectual activity are facing questions of what to collect and save and why? How do you deal with archives that are way beyond just paper, containing emails, tweets, Youtube clips, broadcast television or radio, blogs, personal Websites? Already there are high profile individuals who expect their cultural, scientific or political memories to be dynamic, Internet and multi-media focussed - Stephen Fry, Tim Berners-Lee, significant politicians…..

We may not understand for decades the significance of our digital collecting, but the concept of ‘benign neglect’, such an effective policy for materials of the papyrus and print eras, will not suffice in the digital world where, for example, the average Website life is some 75 days. Digital preservation considerations begin at the point of creation or harvesting. Contemporaneous archiving is necessary: sweeping up after death and delving in attics is no longer a possible mode of operation. Partnerships with living authors etc. are now necessary, and we are even seeing examples of individuals being their own living archive, recording instantaneously the main events of their own lives.

**I conclude that digital archiving and digital collecting pose profound questions of societal interest and for scholars and research library leaders but am aware that decisions and pathways taken now will shape how the digital age can be researched and understood for centuries to come**
Opening up legacy collections for global access

Opening up library collections is a well-known challenge for research libraries across the world and we have all been pre-occupied with the undoubted challenges of digitisation, both of the treasures of our great libraries and also digitisation of content at scale. We know broadly how to do it but there continues to be a challenge of resourcing this work and moving fast enough to reveal material, which for younger users at least, if not discoverable and available digitally ‘might as well not exist’.

Research libraries have opened up access to many treasures through high quality digitisation.

I am particularly pleased to be able to mention the collaboration between the National Library of Singapore and the British Library, courtesy of William and Judy Bollinger, to digitize Malay manuscripts and letters, early maps of Singapore, and archival material relating to Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, and to make them available to scholars and researchers and a wide public over the Web, hosted in London and at the National Library of Singapore.

But we also have to be pre-occupied with digitisation at industrial scale, resourced inevitably through a variety of partnerships, public and private. Oxford has experience of Google book scanning: the British Library prioritised the digitisation of its newspaper collection through a commercial partnership, with 40 million pages being made available.

But challenging as all this is, digitisation is actually only a means to an end and not an end in itself. The potential for opening up of new value through digital scholarship, particularly in the humanities and social sciences is important.

Open access, data and copyright

Opening up legacy collections has mostly to date meant providing digital access to that material which is no longer in copyright, which does not have residual rights inhibiting wider or freer access. There has been plenty to do so far, but the real future challenge will be associated with ways in which the balance between IP and copyright protection and the open access and publishing movement plays out. The aspiration to ensure that for scholarship and research purposes there is an easy ability to treat all relevant content as a fully searchable corpus must surely remain a goal.

Through a flurry of reports, open access publishing has come to the front of academic and publisher debate, stimulated by national, European and learned society reports and commentary. Many librarians and others (notably the Wellcome Trust in the UK) have been vocal and active advocates of open access scholarly publishing, believing that it promises to remove both the price barriers and the permission barriers that undermine widespread access to research literature, and increasingly access to associated research data - for access, re-use and manipulation in new ways and with new research methods. The issues, especially associated with transition are complex and hugely contested, as the tectonic plates of traditional commercial interest collide or converge with new business models and ‘free’ options of the Internet, but I believe the broad directions are set and experimentation and innovative pilot programmes are underway all over the world.

On big data, Professor Mayer-Schonberger (Prof of Internet Governance and Regulation at the OII) suggests that the explosion of information that digitisation has sparked is changing our world in ways we are only just starting to appreciate. Data becomes a new source of value, is becoming a top competitive asset for corporates, and is reshaping business models for many Internet businesses and for the advertising industry. The writers suggest that ‘it is poised to shake up everything from business and the sciences, to healthcare, government, education, economics, the humanities and every other aspect of societies’.

It is equally obvious that companies such as Google, Amazon and Facebook are already highly sophisticated in their use of big data. This highlights the need for a more transparent and open data dialogue between citizens, consumers, businesses and government is essential to ensure a more equal ‘value exchange’ of personal data, anonymised data, attitudes to tracking, cookies, personalised advertising, and so on.

Understanding these changing parameters and the issues involved in new value exchanges is relevant for data and text driven research and teaching programmes, and will need to form part an increasing part of the new digital skills agenda in which libraries should have a large part to play.

Discovery and navigation

Discovery and navigation have traditionally been at the core of research library functions, primarily through bibliographic data and the catalogue. However, we are now seeing discovery and search essentially belonging to, and being led primarily to Google, Amazon, Wikipedia, and other commercial players in the search engine space. Facebook is an additional player as it develops its social search facilities, by taking advantage of the huge amount of personal information it holds about its billion users worldwide. Key to these services are the advertising and marketing interests deeply embedded in algorithmic design and results presentation.

Users often turn first to the major network level hubs, which scale to provide access to what is visible across the whole network, to a more complete resource, rather than a local catalogue selection which seems increasingly partial. This, combined with plenty of evidence that users do not want to spend a long time searching for information resources suggest that library catalogue data needs to be more embedded into the broader web environment, be present in multiple entry points across the Web and in aggregator services, and within specific workflow domains.

Our web and mobile experiences are now actively shaped by ranking, relating and recommending services based on social and usage data. For library services this is a major organisational challenge, as supra-institutional approaches may be required to generate appropriate scale, whether through consortia membership or through Web scale activity and presence, well beyond the individual library or country.

Pulling in the opposite direction, come new demands for kite-marking and filtering - help to navigate ways through the deluge of available information. At one level the filtering that social approaches and the use of analytics provide become more valuable: ranking, relating and recommending can help. But I think there must be ways in which the traditional, trusted and authoritative mediation role played by libraries...
be newly harnessed, and stand at least as an adjunct beside the mighty commercial search engines of today.

The library role in authentication, peer review processes, navigation of the open research resources, expertly curated and interpreted sub-sets of coherent content, is surely a core one for the future, and a way of adding value through a ‘less is more’ approach?

Future of the physical library
My final theme concerns the question of what exactly is the future of the physical library. Many simplistically have said that the physical library no longer has a role in the digitally connected world. But in my view and experience, nothing could be further from the truth! The challenge it does pose to us all is to develop and articulate a new vision of the distinctive role and shape of the physical library in this new context.

As I know from experience at the British Library a sense of place in the digital world is incredibly important. Libraries can provide quality space for the exchange of ideas, for collaborative working, for public discourse, for silence and concentration, and somewhere where discussion around research interests can be taken forward. Camaraderie, community and solidarity of experience amongst library users is evident at the British Library in and around reading rooms. Digital companionship whilst important appears not to be sufficient.

As some of you will know the New Bodleian is nearing the end of a major redevelopment to become the Weston Building – transforming and opening up the space for scholars and for the public, the latter being given a public passport to the ‘republic of the learned’, with two new public galleries, one to show Bodley Treasures and the other devoted to temporary exhibitions open to all. There will be a Scholars Centre, seminar rooms for research and student interactions with original manuscripts and documents, as well as storage and preservation facilities for the Library’s Special Collections.

A particular question that interests me is what is the changing relationship with the artifact, the original, primary document or manuscript and its digital surrogates. All libraries engaged in digitisation - of treasures, rare books, letters, poems, or documents - will have some experience of this, and from my observations there is nothing to match the special experience of seeing an original document. At the British Library and other great libraries, increasing digital availability significantly increases research and public interest in viewing and engaging with originals.

Nothing in these experiences suggests other than new kinds of physical spaces being extremely popular and used, in many cases for digital activity in a high quality, social space, but these inter-relationships between the digital, physical and artefactual, as they support research and scholarship, are not yet significantly researched.

Towards some conclusions
As I move towards trying to draw a few of the threads together, to generate some framing of future strategic options for research libraries I am mindful that I have touched only on a few of the challenges the research library and indeed the university faces.

The research library is unlikely to be a ‘one size fits all’ entity - disciplinary differences and associated research methods will really matter much more in a post-print world, leading to more highly differentiated services and provision, possible fragmentation, and even withdrawal from local service, where library domain competencies are not deep. The tensions between deep specialisation and huge breadth of the research library are likely to be played out strongly in the digital space.

To see powerful technological drivers as determining the future shape of the research library would be mistaken, despite what seems an ever-faster rate of technology innovation and change. Nevertheless, the increasing pace of moves to digital publishing (and digital resources of all kinds) suggests a faster than comfortable pace of evolution for most research libraries.

Behavioural and attitudinal changes (particularly to be seen in young people) associated with technological opportunities seem to me to have potentially more profound impact on both the future of the university and its research library. The role of users in knowledge production, comment and engagement is changing fast; the wish for personalised learning and participation are growing - all of significance for universities and academic faculty and research library strategies.

There will continue also to be tensions between the different models of open scholarly communication and rights protected publication, in all formats, as the challenges of finding new, sustainable financial and business models continue to play out.

These are all pointers that, as we near the end of the Gutenberg era, libraries will need to continue to show their ability to adapt and change, to embrace creative chaos and to steer through what is likely to be a long transition towards the 2020s and beyond. But so far the digital doom-mongers have been wrong.

As I started by saying, research libraries have been key players in the scholarly knowledge cycle: thanks to the internet revolution and digital communication tools, the 21st century library has the opportunity to evolve as a key player in new knowledge and content networks, enabling people to collaborate productively in and beyond institutional, domain and national boundaries. The key is adaptation and continuing development to ensure that 21st century libraries continue to be, an essential part of the information environment. The death of the library, the book and the librarian have all been predicted before.

"The reality is rather different. What, however, is clear is that there is not an option to stand still"

Dame Lynne J Brindley
The city of Taraz is the new “Library capital” for 2013. The decision was made at the “Library innovations in changing society” by the conference organizers comprising Akimat of the Jambyl region, the Ministry of culture and information, the Ministry of education and science, the RK National academic library, the RK Republican scientific pedagogical library, the RK Library association, the RK Association of college libraries, the Department of culture, archives and documentation of the Jambyl region, the Jambyl regional universal scientific library after Sh.Ualikhanov, the Taraz State university after M.Kh.Dulati.


The conference was attended by the RK Departmental libraries and colleagues from the CIS countries and foreign countries to exchange ideas and experience in librarianship. More than 160 representatives of the national and regional libraries, including more than 60 specialists from the college libraries of Kazakhstan attended the conference held at the Taraz State University after M.Kh.Dulati.

There were also guests from Russia, Lithuania, Poland and Turkey

At the exhibitions of library equipment by the “Elar” Corporation, “Taraz housing” Company Ltd and “Recom” Company held at the foyer of the Palace of youth after M.Urkumbayev, guests were acquainted to the modern copying apparatus, mobile metallic stands, bilateral stationary book stands, book shelves, universal booklet stands and etc. They also attended product presentations.

M.Sarybekov, Dr. of Science (Pedagogics), Professor and Rector of the Taraz State University after M.Kh.Dulati; P.Lapo, President of the Byellorussian library association, Director of the Fundamental library of the Byellorussian State University; R.Berdigaliyeva, President of the Library association of the RK; Zh.Shaimukhanbetova, Deputy Director-General of the National academic library of the Republic of Kazakhstan; A.Nasyrova, Director of the Republican Scientific-Pedagogical Library; G.Yrzhanova, President of the Association of College Libraries addressed the conference.
The plenary sessions included presentations by:

I. Razumova, Coordinator of EIFL projects, Deputy Director of the National Electronic-Informational Consortium (NEICON), (City of Saint-Petersburg, Russia) who delivered a paper on “Library Consortiums and their International Associations: NEICON (Russia), the Association of Consortiums of Developing Countries EIFL: the International Coalition of Library Consortiums”

R. Berdigaliyeva, President of the LARK who delivered a paper on “The Global Library Transformation: Challenges and Prospects of Development”

Kivanch Chinar, Director of the Turkish Informational Company who delivered the paper on “The e-books on mobile devices for libraries”

Participants at the plenary session discussed the trends of electronic libraries, library associations, college libraries, children’s and youth’s libraries, promotion of reading. This was followed by activities that included:

Panel discussion on “Informational Resources for Science and Education”. The moderator was Nasyrova A.A., Director of the Republican Scientific-Pedagogical Library of the Ministry of Education and Science of the RK

Training for the administrators and cataloguers of “KABIS School” with moderator: K. Nakysbekova, Engineer-Programmer of “Kazakh SOFT” Ltd

Online training for trainers “Informational culture of students as factor of educational and scientific activity” by trainers: D. Bukhtiyarova, Coordinator of Electronic Resources of the Library of Nazarbayev University, K. Asylbekova, bibliographer of the Library of Nazarbayev University

At the concluding plenary session, the Association of college libraries announced “The best professional ideas in 2013”. The RK Conference the Library Association adopted the proposals to:

determine the Southern-Kazakhstani RUSL after Pushkin as the Republican Methodological Centre pertaining to the work with Wiki-bilim

determine the RUSL of the Jambyl region as the base for the carrying out of annual trainings for teaching young librarians of Kazakhstan on the theme “The global library transformation”

determine “Children’s reading” as the theme of the next Library capital

assign the Director of the RUSL to make a speech at IFLA with the information named “Taraz – Library capital of Kazakhstan in 2013”
The 59th International Indian Library Association (ILA) Conference was organised by Mahatma Gandhi Central Library, IIT, Roorkee. More than 300 participants attended the conference where more than 60 papers were presented in 8 technical sessions.

Prof Pradipta Banerji, Director IIT Roorkee in his address highlighted the importance of a library by stressing that library defines an institution. Prof Ashu Shokeen, ILA President highlighted IFLA’s contributions and achievements for the library and information science profession in the country since its inception in 1933. She emphasised ILA’s successful proactive role in addressing the national issues of the library professionals on many fronts. The inaugural session Chief Guest, Prof R. D. Singh, Director, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee emphasised the need for libraries to continuously reinvent and reengineer their activities and services to address the changing requirement of the clientele.

The inaugural session concluded with the formal vote of thanks proposed by Prof Praveen Kumar, Chairman Library Advisory Committee, IIT Roorkee.

At the session on Managing Change in 21st century

Prakash Chand talked on Indian Citation index. Papers were presented in the context of space management, managing school libraries, corporate social responsibilities, academic liaison libraries, ICT competency and challenges for college libraries.

At the Knowledge Management, Knowledge Organization and Information Retrieval session

Dr Dinesh Rathi reported on a survey on how non Profit Making Organizations (NPOs) of Canada use Social Media for sharing of Knowledge. The contributed papers covered issues like metadata standards for OERs, KM tools and techniques and KM in academic libraries.

At the session on Innovative and Emerging Technologies

Dr Samyukta Ravi spoke on leadership management in University libraries. He presented a case study of Pondicherry University library as a role model of leadership that led to manage and carve a niche among the world class libraries of today. There were 13 papers on information access, cloud computing, RFID technology, QR code, Web 2.0 tools for libraries, designing library website using google site, MIS for libraries etc.

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At the session on Human Resources Development

Sam Popowich talked on implementing web-scale discovery system. Papers presented covered issues on HR development, information literacy skills, lifelong learning, soft skills training, creative innovations and entrepreneurship, internship and job satisfaction.

At the session on Copyright, IPR and Professional Ethics

Dr Daulat Jotwani spoke on the marketing of the e-resources in the IIT libraries and Dr Pradeepa Vijetungi presented the journey towards consortia of e-journal in SriLanka. Papers presented covered topics on copyright issues, anti-plagiarism software, unethical practices, and licensing agreements for e-journals, e-learning awareness among LIS professionals, leadership and reading habits.

At the session on Open Access to Scholarly Communication

Dr C. K. Ramaiah spoke on Digital Rights management in the context of e-books. Dr N. V. Satyanarayana spoke on open access movement and publisher’s role in this context and Peggy Sue Ewannyshyn shared her experience in digitization project of University of Alberta. This was followed by 3 contributed paper presentations on open access issues.
Managing libraries in the changing information world: from surviving to thriving

The conference theme of “Managing libraries in the changing information world: from surviving to thriving” was taken up by the Panel Discussion at the last session. The panellists comprising Dr S. S. Murthy, Dr N. V. Satyanarayana and Yogendra Singh deliberated on paradigm shift in the library and information services due to proliferation of knowledge resources and invasion of modern ICT tools and applications. They emphasised the need for LIS professionals to gear up for the changing requirements and bring in innovations and creativity to thrive in the present knowledge society. The session was moderated by Prof S M Shafi.

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Chief Guest, Prof P. V. Mangla in his valedictory address gave an overview of the evolution of the Library and Information Science profession in the country. He emphasized the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission in the context of libraries and the future activities to be taken up under the National Library Mission.

Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning are key elements for the development of generic capabilities of individuals and need to be included in the core and continuing education of information professionals, educators, policymakers, administrators etc. This should be embedded in education and training programmes at all levels and ILA needs to take up the issue with UGC, educations Boards and MHRD for mandating its inclusion in the curriculum at all levels.

He focused on the need for a change from Library and Information Science to Library and Information Management in the changing scenario

The academic status for librarians in the universities need to be at par with the teaching profession as librarians, with their expertise in knowledge, technology, tools and management, have to play a major role.

At the session on E-Resource Management

papers were presented on N-LIST programme, present scenario of consortia of library networks, e-resource subscription, library collection assessment and development, marketing of library products and services, cloud computing and use of e-resources etc.

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Prof Uma Kanjilal, Rapporteur General, presented the conference report and Prof S M Shafi, Conference Director presented the recommendations of the conference deliberations. These are:

ILA should organize short term on continuing education training programmes, workshops etc. to build awareness about ICT tools and applications, at regular intervals, to keep professionals abreast of latest developments in the LIS field

ILA should work towards initiating a project on benchmarking of best practices in the country and develop parameters for quality assurance in service delivery and share them through its website and other publications

ILA should play an active role in advocacy of Open Access and approach UGC, MHRD, CSIR etc. to develop a mandate for adoption of Open Access policy by institutions of higher education, R&D institutions. ILA has to play an active role in supporting the educational institutions in developing interoperable institutional repositories

ILA should take an active role in developing a policy for digitization of resources in the country and pooling resources to archive, preserve and disseminate indigenous historical and cultural assets

ILA should take up the issue of establishing a National Board of Accreditation for Assessment of Library & Information Science schools and develop mechanism for controlling the unplanned proliferation of LIS schools in the country with UGC and MHRD

Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning are key elements for the development of generic capabilities of individuals and need to be included in the core and continuing education of information professionals, educators, policymakers, administrators etc. This should be embedded in education and training programmes at all levels and ILA needs to take up the issue with UGC, educations Boards and MHRD for mandating its inclusion in the curriculum at all levels

LIS professional’s soft skills training need to be embedded in the LIS curriculum to increase their employability. ILA should take up the issue with UGC and MHRD in mandating its inclusion in the curriculum at all levels by LIS schools

Major developments have taken place in the last decade and the LIS curriculum across the country needs a complete overhauling. The CDC report (2001) of UGC needs to be revised to keep in view the present day requirements. ILA needs to take up this with the UGC for revision of the CDC report

He focused on the need for a change from Library and Information Science to Library and Information Management in the changing scenario

The academic status for librarians in the universities need to be at par with the teaching profession as librarians, with their expertise in knowledge, technology, tools and management, have to play a major role.

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The International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL) 2013

by
Sanjay K Bihani
Chair-South Asia, IFLA-RSCAO

The theme of the International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL) 2013, the fourth in ICDL series, was ‘Vision 2020: Looking Back 10 Years and Forging New Frontiers’.

The conference provided an international forum for sharing of experiences among researchers, educators, practitioners, and policy makers from a variety of disciplines such as library and information science, information and communication technology, archival and museum studies, knowledge management and various other related areas in the fields of Science, Social Sciences and Humanities. It facilitated the bridging of knowledge gaps between developing and developed countries; initiated capacity building activities in DLs; provided a forum for facilitating useful interaction amongst information science and technology professionals; and most important of all, facilitated the formulation of recommendations on digitization technologies, acts and policies in India. It brought together professionals, experts, digital library workers, and information providers, from across the globe on a single platform and encouraged the sharing of experiences, concerns, and ideas.

Shri M Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India, inaugurated the Conference at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi on 27th November 2013. The welcome address was given by Dr R P Pachauri, Director General, TERI. Dr M M Pallam Raju, Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India gave a special address. Prabir Sengupta, Distinguished Fellow, TERI gave an introduction to the ICDL 2013 programme.

The conference comprised Tutorials, Technical Sessions, Thematic Workshops-cum-Panel Discussions, poster presentations, exhibitions, and interviews sponsored by the government, multilateral and bilateral organizations. More than 600 participants from 35 countries including librarians, computer science professionals, academicians, policy makers, and students attended the conference that received overwhelming global response.

At the “Collaborative Knowledge Creation” session that I chaired, Professor Atsuyuki Morishima talked about the L-Crowd Project by LIS and CS researchers in Japan and the importance of crowdsourcing, especially in Japan. Professor Kavi Mahesh talked on the use of tag and content management in the present scenario, drawbacks of hyperlinks, and requirements for semantic content management. He concluded that content sharing should be a global activity. These were followed by a discussion on the importance of collaborative knowledge creation in informal networks, with a special focus on the Bandra-Kurla complex knowledge network, Mumbai. The need for collaboration among librarians and library resources and tools were emphasized. There was also a presentation on managing enterprise knowledge and discussion on knowledge management and initiatives taken by the SAIL organization.

At the conference, publishers, software companies, and online service providers from India and abroad exhibited the latest technological developments, online services and e-journal initiatives throughout the world.

At the Valedictory Session, Dr Santanu Ganguly, the Organising Secretary, highlighted the ICDL Conference Report 2013 including recommendations on a national digital library platform; digital deposit legislation; and the funding, support policies and government programmes. He emphasized the need for developing countries to undertake a survey of digital libraries in their countries to assess the status of development in all areas of digital library technologies such as information infrastructure, digital technology applications, digital library research, and standards and practices followed as well as library staff competency level in managing digital technologies.

The conference has boosted the enthusiasm among government, library and information professionals and technology professionals of the importance of the DL system. It also brought out the present status and the latest developments and techniques in this field.
Developments on the Resource Description and Access Adoption and Implementation in the Philippines

by
Teresita C. Moran
University Librarian, Far Eastern University (Manila)

Martin Julius V. Perez
Librarian / Archivist, Department of Foreign Affairs

Prof Corazon M. Nera, of the Philippines took part in the working group that prepared the recommendations for Uniform Titles and for Proposals of GMDs and Expression Level Citation at the 4th IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloging Code in Seoul, Korea in August 2006.

Since then, the International Cataloging Code had been a topic of discussions among librarians and catalogers in the Philippines. As early as 2009, the technical standards: “International Cataloging Principles” and the “Resource Description and Access” had been discussed during seminars, forum and conferences of library associations in the Philippines, particularly the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI). Following numerous consultations, the Professional Regulatory Board (PRB) for Librarians of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) in the Philippines decided to endorse the prescription and adoption of the two technical standards by issuing Resolution No. 04, series of 2012. The resolution bears the title: “Prescription and Adoption of the ‘International Cataloging Principles’ and ‘Resource Description and Access (RDA)’ as the Technical Standards for Organizing Resources, Items and Objects for Philippine Libraries.”

In July 2012, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP), under the leadership of Director Antonio M. Santos, spearheaded the First Salon on Resource Description and Access (RDA). The Salon attended by librarians and catalogers from various libraries, aims to share information and insights on RDA by examining the implications and impact of the transition to RDA on users, and developing a timetable for the implementation of RDA.

The Salon paved way for the creation of a National Committee for Resource Description and Access (NCRDA) that will develop a National Plan of Action to create policy statements and address the necessary education and training of Filipino librarians on RDA and related matters. The NCRDA appointed members are: Prof. Ruben Marasigan as Chairman; Prof Corazon Nera and Mr. Rodolfo Tarlit as Co-Chairpersons, representatives from Ateneo De Manila University Library, De La Salle University-Manila Library, University of Santo Tomas Library, Adamson University Library, Far Eastern University Library, and De La Salle University-Dasmarinas Library as Committee Members; with the National Library of the Philippines as the Secretariat.

As part of RDA’s National Plan, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) – National Committee on Library and Information Services (NCLIS) with the Philippine Association of Academic/Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL) and, in cooperation with National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and the National Committee on RDA (NCRDA) organized a trainers’ training workshop last April 2013 in the Learning Commons of the De La Salle University-Manila.

This was attended by 54 librarians, catalogers, and teachers of cataloging courses. Dr Barbara B. Tillett, Chair of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA and the invited resource speaker conducted the basic training through presentations, quizzes, examples, and exercises, for RDA trainers. The trainers’ training workshop resulted in the proposed Cataloging Policy Statement for Philippine and a pool of RDA trainers.

This was followed by a three-day national training-workshops on RDA organized at three strategic locations in the Philippines: Davao City in Mindanao (April 2013), Cavite City in Luzon (May 2013) and Cebu City in Visayas (June 2013) for librarians, catalogers, library administrators, and faculty members of LIS schools. The resource persons were NCRDA experts.

The training-workshops’ objectives are to:

• give an overview of RDA, emphasizing the core elements and other elements identified as core for the Library of Congress Classification scheme
• recognize the changes from AACR2R to RDA
• learn the recording guidelines attributes of FRBR entities
• understand the conceptual entity-relationship module FRBR and its relationship to RDA
• learn the use of RDA toolkit, and
• apply the new cataloging standard RDA in practice exercises to create bibliographic records for monographs according to RDA rules encoded in the MARC21 format.

The comments and suggestions on what bibliographic format and entries Philippine libraries should follow, raised and discussed at the training workshops led to the formulation of standard policies and guidelines on RDA, including those used for Filipiniana resources. The proposed “Policy Statements and Guidelines for Philippine Libraries” by NCRDA set the general principles and guidelines to help (not to limit) the Filipino cataloger in achieving his/her goal of effectively linking information with users. To validate and finalize this, a two-day public consultations and further training workshops, initiated by NCCA-NCLIS with PAARL, and in cooperation with NLP and NCRDA, are being organized among librarians, catalogers, library administrators, and faculty members of LIS schools to get more feedbacks before this policy statement is officially endorsed. These are scheduled in Manila for National Capital Region (March 2014), Baguio City for Visayas (May 2014), Baguio City for Luzon (June 2014), and General Santos City for Mindanao (August 2014).

It is hoped that NCRDA and the National Library of the Philippines can finalize and endorse the ‘RDA Policy Statements and Guidelines for Philippine Libraries’ as well as the full implementation and adoption of RDA cataloging in Philippine libraries before 2015.
The Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) organised a workshop to introduce the IMF (Information Management Framework) toolkit to Sri Lanka, to learn about the framework and activities in the toolkit.

The IMF provides a systematic way of understanding how to gather, use and organise information within and across organisations (whether NGOs or government) to enable staff to work both effectively and efficiently.

The IMF toolkit is a package of workshop activities, guidelines and resource modules that together give agencies a framework for engaging staff, management and volunteers in understanding how to:

- Use and manage information more effectively.
- Evaluate how effectively they currently manage their information.
- Develop an action plan to meet their information governance requirements.
- Strengthen the way they use information.

The IMF toolkit was developed in Australia by Andrew Clark, with an evaluation conducted by Monash University Faculty of IT staff.

The toolkit and training package was successfully used to train staff from non-profit organisations in the Home and Community Care sector in the state of New South Wales in 2012.

The workshop which was held from 29 and 30 January 2014 at the Executive Lounge of IPS was facilitated by Dr. Tom Denison and Rebecca French from Monash University Faculty of IT who were involved in the development and evaluation of the toolkit. Around 22 library professionals from universities, research organisations, national library, banks and NGOs attended the workshop.

The workshop was a success and according to participants’ anonymous feedback we were able to meet the objectives.

A CALL FOR ACTION

by Elizabeth R. Peralejo
President, Philippine Librarians Association, INC (PLAI)

The aftermath of the past natural calamities (earthquakes, typhoons, floods) and unstable political situations that struck various parts of our country left a number of our countrymen devastated and desperate. I am sure that a good number of them are our colleagues in the profession, with a number of their libraries adversely affected as well. That is why I am calling upon my fellow librarians to help our unfortunate colleagues. This is a time to show them that we care and that we want to help them and their libraries rise again.

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), is now doubling its efforts to solicit not only books (with its outreach programme dubbed “One Million and Counting: Books for Libraries, Victims of Calamities”), but financial donations and relief goods as well (e.g. canned goods, clothes, blankets, etc.) which will be sent to the region/s worst hit or to the donor’s chosen region. These initiatives are being duplicated by the various Regional Councils which were not affected. On the other hand, the Regional Council/s in the badly affected areas will identify the beneficiaries and will take care of the sorting, packing, and the distribution of goods. They will also be doing their own solicitation in their respective regions.

Once again, I would like to knock at the hearts of our fellow librarians, both here and abroad, who have the means and the capacity to help and join us in this worthy endeavor. Let us thank the good Lord that we were spared and let us show our gratitude by doing our share. For your material donations, you can have them picked up or sent to the PLAI Headquarters at 707 T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila 1000; Swift Code :BNORPHMM; Saving’s Account No. 451-000-1102 under the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. Then, please get in touch with our office staff at 310-5035 local 214 or 525-9401 or with the Board Treasurer at +63933-2822302 for acknowledgment and/or official receipt.

Thank you and God bless!

Elizabeth R. Peralejo
President

PHILIPPINE LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION INC. (PLAI)
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Telefax: 525-9401; www.plai.org.ph
September 2014

Event: Swiss Association for Library & Information Management Congress
Organiser: Bibliotheque Information Suisse
Date: 3-6 September 2014
Venue: Centre des congrèes de Lugano, Lugano, Switzerland
Link: http://www.bis.ch/index.php?id=136&L=1n

Event: International Library Symposium
Organiser: School Library Association of Queensland, Inc.
Date: 28-30 September 2014
Venue: The Southport School, Gold Coast, Australia
Link: www.thesouthportschool.com/ils
Contact: Andrew J Stark (ajs@tss.qld.edu.au)

October 2014

Event: Connect and Thrive: Look into the past to view the future / Pou Whakairo – Me hoki whakamuri, kia haere whakamua
Organiser: Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa
Date: 12-15 October 2014
Venue: SkyCity, Auckland, New Zealand
Link: http://fianzaconference.weebly.com/

Event: Estonian Library Days
Organiser: National Library of Estonia
Date: 20-22 October 2014

November 2014

Event: Taxonomy Boot Camp 2014
Organiser: Information Today, Inc.
Date: 4-5 November 2014
Venue: Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington D.C.
Link: http://www.taxonomybootcamp.com/2014/
Contact: Nancy Ellor (nellor@infotoday.com)

Event: Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) 2014 Annual Conference
Organiser: Palau Community College
Date: 10-15 November 2014
Venue: Koror, Republic of Palau
Link: http://piala-pacific.wix.com/piala-pacific#piala-2014/cy1
Contact: David Thompson (info.pcclibrary@gmail.com)

Event: 7th Spanish Public Libraries Congress
Organiser: Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports (Spain)
Date: 12-14 November 2014
Venue: Badajoz, Spain
Link: http://www.mecd.gob.es/congresobp-vii-14/presentacion.html
Contact: congreso.publicas@mecd.es

Event: 5th International Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World
Organiser: Hacettepe University
Date: 24-26 November 2014
Venue: Antalya, Turkey
Link: http://imcw2014.bilgiyonetimi.net
Contact: Yaşar Tonta (yasartonta@gmail.com)
           Serap Kurbanoğlu (kurbanoglu.serap@gmail.com)
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