



LIBRARY
Association of
SINGAPORE

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

**2023-
2024**

—

CONTENTS

01	President's Message
02	Council Members
03	Membership Committee
04	Training and Development Committee
05	Programmes and Engagement Committee
06	Publications Committee
07	LAS Awards Panel
08	Web and IT Committee
09	Chronology of LAS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

It gives me great pleasure to serve our profession. I am very grateful to have many colleagues, whom I first met in my days as a young librarian, working with me in this newly appointed Council. We sincerely hope that we can make a difference and revitalise the profession with the implementation of new initiatives, especially since the Covid-19 pandemic has brought many changes upon us. Special thanks to past Presidents and Council Members who had held the fort during the pandemic.

In June 2023, the Council came up with the Work Plan for 2023 to 2025 with the key objectives of building a strong and united library field in Singapore and promoting the library profession widely. The Council felt it was pivotal to grow and transform by providing more guidance and training and learning opportunities for members, as well as by adding to the ranks through outreach to younger library professionals. We find it is equally important to profile and promote our members at local and international platforms.

In November 2023, the Training & Development Committee came up with a draft Professional Development Scheme 2.0. After further debate and discussion, the Committee decided to embark on a national Competency Framework that is targeted to be rolled out by 2025 instead. With the Web and IT Committee, they started a Discord channel for those keen to find out more about data. The Web and IT Committee is also revamping the LAS website.

Besides producing the Bulletin news and SJLIM, the Publications Committee is working on the Directories of Libraries 2024 to be published in 2025. This will enable Singapore libraries to be better reflected in the Library Map of the World. The Membership Committee is exploring new channels to expand our reach. One such channel is through a potential collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

The Council has approached the new Council of Persatuan Perpustakaan Malaysia (PPM) to consider a joint celebration for the 70th anniversary of LAS-PPM in 2025. The Programmes and Engagement Committee is in discussion with PPM on putting together a suite of programmes for members to come together and celebrate. This joint celebration is especially timely as the Council saw a great increase in attendance at our programmes this past year for the first time post-pandemic.

I would like to congratulate the winners of the 2023 LAS Awards. Many thanks to the Awards Panel and we look forward to receiving many more nominations in 2024.

Do also look out for the upcoming LAS Conference later this year!

Ms Soh Lin Li
President
Library Association of Singapore

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023 – 2025



Ms Soh Lin Li
President
National Library Board



Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis-Huff
Immediate Past President
Superlative She



Ms Shameem Nilofar Maideen
Vice President
Singapore Management University



Ms Benita Lim
Honorary Treasurer
National Library Board



Ms Lim Puay Ling
Honorary Secretary
National Library Board



Ms Ng Hui Ling
Asst. Hon Secretary and Chair, Membership
National Library Board



Ms Phoebe Lim Choon Lan
Council Member (Chair, Training & Development)
Nanyang Technological University



Ms Khoo Ai Ling
Council Member (Chair, Publications)
Singapore Polytechnic



Ms Lo Wan Ni
Council Member (Chair, Programmes & Engagement)
National Library Board



Mr Sun ShengBo
Council Member (Chair, Web & IT)
Clarivate

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Ng Hui Ling (Chair)
- Ho Yen Wah (Member)

Membership 2023 (by Membership category)

Membership Category	December 2022	December 2023	% Change
Professional	122	113	-7.3%
Associate	36	29	-19.4%
Affiliate	0	0	0%
Life	97	97	0%
Honorary	2	2	0%
Professional (nonworking)	3	5	66.7%
Institution (Libraries)	24	24	0%
Institution (Schools)	6	6	0%
Institution (Others)	3	2	-33.3%
Total	293	278	-5.5%

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Phoebe Lim (Chair)
- Malarvele Ilangovan (Member)
- Vincent Wong (Member)
- Zoe Yeo (Member)

Summary of activities:

LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session - 26 May 2023

The first Professional Sharing session in 2023 took place at the Woodlands Regional Library on 26 May 2023. The main theme was *Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Libraries: Building Future-Ready Information Spaces*. Fifty participants and 5 presenters discussed various aspects of AI's role and impact on libraries and services.

LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session - 10 November 2023

The second Professional Sharing session of 2023 was held on 10 November at the Pod, National Library Building. The theme was *Librarian's Adventures in the Data Wonderland*.

Fifty-four participants and 7 presenters spent an afternoon learning about various library data analytics projects our librarian peers are busy with. From achieving productivity via automation, deriving business insights on users' behaviours to engaging users in a classroom or a hackathon. It was a data wonderland indeed.

Data Carpentry for Librarians Workshop – 7 and 8 March 2024

The Carpentries workshops returned to LAS after a long hiatus. SMU Libraries kindly provided the venue. Taught by 2 librarians affiliated with [The Carpentries](#). The course is aimed at LAS members who are new to coding in R.

Librarians' Competencies Working Group

A working group has been set up to look at developing a national competency framework for information professionals across industries.

The members are:

- Gee Miaw Miin, NLB
- Jennifer Chor, NAFA Library
- Jonathan Pradusook, NUS Libraries
- Phoebe Lim, NTU Library

Memorandum of Understanding between LAS and LAAS

LAS and Library & Archives Solutions will work together to create and offer training programmes and activities for our associate members and school library club members.

PROGRAMMES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Lo Wan Ni (Chair)
- Averil Tan (Member)
- Muhammad Ridzwan Bin Hussain (Member)

Summary of activities:

1. Guided Tour to the Rotunda Library & Archive and National Gallery Singapore (December 2023)



Figure 1 Rotunda Library Librarian, Hoi Ying, showing participants some of the special items collected by the library



Figure 2 National Gallery of Singapore docent explaining the history and architecture of the former Supreme Court

On 15 December 2023, a visit to the Rotunda Library & Archive at the National Gallery of Singapore was organised, with twenty participants from LAS. The first part of the tour was led by Hoi Ying, the Rotunda Library librarian. Housed in the Former Supreme Court, the Rotunda Library houses one of the world's most comprehensive collections of archival and reference resources on 19th and 20th century Southeast Asian art. The library is open to the public on weekdays (except public holidays) from

10-12.30pm and 2-5pm.

2. Learning Visit to LinkedIn Learning Office (January 2024)



Figure 3 Pantry tour of the LinkedIn Office



Figure 4 Sharing session by LinkedIn on Generative AI and the LinkedIn Learning platform

The second run of the LinkedIn Learning visit was held on 23 January 2024, and attracted more than 30 LAS members, none of whom were repeat participants. LinkedIn first conducted a fireside chat on Generative AI and the challenges and opportunities to the knowledge landscape and work in general. Participants also went on a guided tour of their very attractive and well-designed office located at Marina Bay Financial Centre. For a detailed post-event report, please refer to [Misa Mitsugi's post on the LAS Bulletin](#).

3. Guided Tour to Central Public Library (March 2024)



Figure 5 The Children's Biodiversity Library at the Central Public Library



Figure 6 The Brick Wall at the Central Public Library

On 1 March 2024, a total of 18 members joined the guided tour of the Central Public Library, which is the latest public library under the National Library Board to have undergone revamp and was reopened on 12 January 2024. The manager and librarian tour guides shared the new features of the library, such as the Augmented Reality (AR) features of the brick wall, which comprised of the original bricks from the old Stamford Road library, and the revamped children's library in collaboration with Resorts World Singapore.

4. Guided Tour of (exhibit) and Learning Visit to Gaia, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) (27 March 2024)



Figure 7 Tour of NTU's Exhibition on Copyright and The Gaia



Figure 8 Tour of NTU's Exhibition on Copyright and The Gaia

On 27 March 2024, our members made a trip to the west side of the island to visit NTU's exhibition on Copyright and their latest sustainable building, The Gaia, which is Asia's largest wooden building. Participants learnt more about the sustainable features of the building in the guided tour.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Khoo Ai Ling (Chair)
- Kong Leng Foong
- Nadia Arianna Ramli
- Goh Yu Mei

LAS Bulletin

Ten articles were published between April 2023 and March 2024. Highlights include:



'A Day in the Life' Programme
(July 2023 Run)



Librarians Shaping the Edu-Tech Landscape:
NUS Libraries at EDUTech Asia 2023, Asia's
Largest Conference for Educators



Misinformation Mayhem Puzzle Displays –
Notes from a Teacher Librarian



Ignite Integrity with a Bingo Challenge: A
Collaboration between SMU Libraries and the
Student Council of Discipline (SCD)

Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management (SJLIM)

SJLIM Editorial Board members:

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

2023 Volume 39

In this issue, libraries from Singapore and Malaysia share their experiences in the areas of tackling social media, institutional repositories, and info-literacy. The issue was published in November 2023 on the [SJLIM website](#).

Published papers:

- *Engaging Library Staff in Social Media Promotion: Practices and Experience by Dar al-Hikmah Library, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan Campus*
- *Evaluating an Institutional Repository: A Case Study of Singapore Management University*
- *Keep Calm and Read Laterally! A Bite-sized Information Literacy Programme at Singapore Management University Libraries*

WEB AND IT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Sun Shengbo (Chair)
- Noverinda Bella Ratmelia (Member)
- Sandie Loo Hong Ling (Member)

Membership Portal

The Membership Portal has introduced a new feature enabling the creation of exclusive member-only content. This functionality will be utilised by different committees to develop pages that necessitate member login for accessing the content.

LAS Website

LAS Website achieved 45,000+ views from 22,769 unique visitors in 2023, which is an increase of about 2% from 2022. Top 3 popular pages are [LS Home page](#), [Understanding Indian Names in Naming Conventions, Discovery, and Standardisation](#), and [Jobs Portal](#). Top 3 geo locations of our visitors are from: Singapore (majority), United States, and India.

LAS Job Portal

During the period of March 2023 to February 2024, the LAS Jobs Board (<https://www.las.org.sg/wp/jobs/>) published 40 library or library-related job advertisements, representing an approximately 18.3% decrease from the previous period of March 2022 to February 2023, during which the Jobs Board published 49 job advertisements.

LAS AWARDS PANEL

Panel Chair and Members:

- Lee Cheng Ean, NUS (Chair)
- Goh Su Nee, NTU
- Wong Kae Peng, NIE
- KM Rafi, NLB
- Rajen Munoo, SMU

Summary of activities:

A new Awards Panel was convened with Mrs. Lee Cheng Ean, NUS, as the Chair. The panel will serve for a term of 3 years.

The 2023 LAS Award winners are:

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2023 has been accorded to Ms Ngian Lek Choh.

LAS Passion Award 2023 is awarded to Ms Bella Ratmelia, SMU.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer 2023 has been accorded to Ms Sandie Loo Hong Ling, NIE

There were no other nominations for the LAS Professional Service Award, or for the LAS Library School Scholarship 2023.

CHRONOLOGY OF LAS

- 1955** Formation of the Malayan Library Group on 25 March 1955.
- 1958** Name changed to Library Association of Malaya and Singapore.
- 1960** Association dissolved and two new groups were formed due to the Federation government's policy to not grant registration to pan-Malayan associations:
- Persatuan Perpustakaan Tanah Melayu (Library Association of Malaya)
 - Library Association of Singapore
- 1964** Library Association of Singapore was reconstituted as the Library Association of Malaya, Singapore Branch, after the merger between Singapore and Malaya.
- 1966** The Singapore Branch became an independent body after Singapore's separation from Malaysia. The Persatuan Perpustakaan Singapore (Library Association of Singapore) was formed.
- 1972** The Association was renamed as the Library Association of Singapore (LAS) on 25 March 1972.
- 2005** The Association celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 15 November 2005.
- 2007** The Association held its conference on the theme *Librarians, Strengthening, Moving Forward from 29 to 31 January 2007*.
- The Association accorded Mrs Hedwig Anuar the first LAS Lifetime Contribution Award on 1 November 2007.
- 2008** The Association gave out the LAS Professional Service award to three winners: Ms Lau Siew Kheng, Ms Manijeh Namazie, and Mr R. Ramachandran, at the Istana Reception on 9 May 2008.
- The Association held the LAS Conference 2008 on the theme *Innovate to Serve* on 8 to 9 May 2008.
- The LAS Professional Development Scheme was launched on 25 August 2008.
- 2009** 136 LAS professional members from the first five batches were given the Practising Professional award under the PDS scheme.

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

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

Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large and Patron of LAS, was invited to give out the LAS Lifetime Contribution Award to Ms Rosemary Yeap at the LAS Annual Dinner held at the Pod on 16 October 2009.

2010

Launch of first online volume of the Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management on 25 January 2010. The table of contents and full text of the articles for Volume 38 are open access and available to everyone. The journal is no longer available in hard copy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2011

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2013

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<http://www.las.org.sg/wp/librariesandlibrariansinsingapore/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

2015 **LAS 60th Anniversary Celebration**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2016

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2015

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

LAS Professional Service Award 2015

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

LAS Passion Award 2015

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

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2015

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

LAS Library School Scholarship 2015

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

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship

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

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

LAS –WLIC Grant

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

LAS *Libraries for Tomorrow* Conference

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

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

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

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

Executive Library Management Programme (ELMP)

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

2017

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2016

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

LAS Professional Service Award 2016

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

LAS Passion Award 2016

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

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2016

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

LAS Library School Scholarship 2016

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

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship

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

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

LAS –WLIC Grant

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

Being Part of the IFLA Global Vision Conversations

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

Together with the National Library Board, LAS also hosted some 40 librarians from the Asia Oceania region taking part in the same IFLA Global Vision workshop on 28 June 2017.

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

Executive Library Management Programme (ELMP)

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

Investment Committee

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

2018

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2017

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

LAS Professional Service Award 2017

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

LAS Passion Award 2017

The award goes to Mr Feng Yikang from NUS Libraries. Although only having been a librarian for the past four years, Mr Feng Yikang has proven to be an invaluable asset to the library profession, making

numerous novel, pioneering, and impactful contributions to the ever-evolving field of digital scholarship. Therefore, Mr Feng was accorded the LAS Passion Award 2017.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2017

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

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2017

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

LAS-WLIC Grant 2017

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

Library School Scholarship 2017

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

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

The second recipient of the Scholarship Award is Ms Noverinda Bella Ratmelia joined Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Libraries as a full-time paraprofessional while studying part-time for her bachelor's degree in information technology from the University of Wollongong, Australia. After receiving her degree in 2015, she was offered the position

of Assistant Librarian at NTU Libraries. She is now completing her MSc in Information Studies at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information in NTU.

First ever Speed Mentoring for LAS

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

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

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

Professional Development Seminar with SMU

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

First ever Nature Walk for LAS

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

First ever Webinar for LAS

A bold step pioneered through the efforts of the Training & Development committee brought about the inaugural LAS Webinar on 30 November 2018. A total of 67 unique attendees took part in this Webinar. Of which, through the collaboration with the Chinese American Librarians Association, we also attracted 12 overseas librarians to the

discussion. Using the WebEx platform, the session managed to yield a 75% media attention-to-attention rating. This is based on the attentiveness of the attendee based on their individual time in the session.

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

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

2019

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2018

This was accorded to Ms Sylvia Yap.

LAS Professional Service Award 2018

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

LAS Passion Award 2018

Ms Irine Tanudjaja from NUS Libraries was the award recipient.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2018

Ms Dong Danping from SMU Library received this award.

LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2018

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

Library School Scholarship 2018

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

First round of conversations on LAS vision

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

decided that it was good enough to have just a vision statement that would galvanise members.

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

2020

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2019

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

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2019

Mr James Wong Hong Kang, NIE Library

LAS School Scholarship 2019

Ms Priscilla Lee Kai Ning, Nanyang Polytechnic

Ms Mardhiah Mahamood, National Library Board

LAS-WLIC Grant 2019

Ms Low Jiaxin, Monetary Authority of Singapore

Mrs Yeo Pin Pin, Singapore Management University

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

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Professional Service Award 2019

Mrs Lee Cheng Ean, NUS Libraries

LAS-APBSLG (SG) Passion Award 2019

Ms Goh Su Nee, NTU Libraries

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

19 September 2019

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

2021

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2020

This was accorded to Mr Idris bin Rashid Khan Surattee.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2020

Ms Sarah Ruslan, Yale-NUS Libraries

LAS Professional Service Award 2020
Ms Joan Wee Jee Foon, SIT Library

LAS Passion Award 2020
Mr Jacky Wong Kae Perng, NIE Library

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

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

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

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

LAS-PPM Joint Conference
LAS-PPM Joint Conference was held virtually on 6 October 2021, chaired by President Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis together with the Publications Chair, Infocomm and IT Chair, as well as the Training and Development Chair (with this committee) as well as several members from the PPM Association Council. The theme was *Collab | Camaraderie | Commune*. A total of 453 attendees globally attended the online session.

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

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

and archives through innovation and experimentation with partners and the community.

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

2022

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2021

This was accorded to Ms Tay Ai Cheng.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2021

Ms Samantha Seah Siew Cheng, NTU Libraries

LAS Passion Award 2021

Ms Rebecca Maniates, SMU Libraries

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

LAS Member Portal

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

The new portal comes with the following features for members:

- Online membership application
- Online membership renewal
- Members will be able to update their own personal details
- Online payment for new membership/renewals
- Renewal reminder for members
- Automatic invoice for online payment.

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

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

2022 Call for Papers

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

LAS Bulletin

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

2023

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2022

This was accorded to Ms Gulcin Cribb.

LAS Passion Award 2022

Ms Zubaidah Bte Mohsen, NLB

LAS Professional Service Award 2022

Mr Kamaludeen Mohamed Rafi, NTU

LAS-WLIC Grant 2022

Ms Raihana Binte Hussain, NLB

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

LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Sessions

In 2023, 2 sessions were held with a total of 104 participants and 12 presenters.

The first session took place at the Woodlands Regional Library on 26 May 2023, on the theme *Artificial Intelligence and Libraries: Building Future-Ready Information Spaces*. Fifty participants and 5 presenters discussed various aspects of AI's role and impact on libraries and services.

The second Professional Sharing session of 2023 was held on 10 November at the Pod, National Library Building. The theme was *Librarian's Adventures in the Data Wonderland*. Fifty-four participants and 7 presenters spent an afternoon learning about various library data analytics projects our librarian peers are busy with.

Library Visit

A visit to the Rotunda Library & Archive at the National Gallery of Singapore was organised on 15 December 2023, with 20 participants from LAS.

SJLIM 2023 Volume 39

The issue was published in November 2023 on the [SJLIM website](#). In this issue, libraries from Singapore and Malaysia share their experiences in the areas of tackling social media, institutional repositories, and info-literacy.

Published papers include:

- *Engaging Library Staff in Social Media Promotion: Practices and Experience by Dar al-Hikmah Library, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan Campus*
- *Evaluating an Institutional Repository: A Case Study of Singapore Management University*
- *Keep Calm and Read Laterally! A Bite-sized Information Literacy Programme at Singapore Management University Libraries*

LAS Website

LAS Website achieved 45,000+ views from 22,769 unique visitors in 2023, which is an increase of about 2% from 2022. Top 3 popular pages are [LAS Home page](#), [Understanding Indian Names in Naming Conventions, Discovery, and Standardisation](#), and [Jobs Portal](#). Top 3 geo locations of our visitors are from: Singapore (majority), United States, and India.

2024

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2023

This has been accorded to Ms Ngian Lek Choh.

LAS Passion Award 2023

This is awarded to Ms Bella Ratmelia, SMU.

LAS Outstanding Newcomer 2023

This has been accorded to Ms Sandie Loo Hong Ling, NIE.

There were no other nominations for the LAS Professional Service Award, or for the LAS Library School Scholarship 2023.

Programmes and Learning Journeys

The following guided tours and learning journey were organised for LAS members from January to March 2024.

Learning Visit to LinkedIn Learning Office (Jan 2024) with more than 30 LAS members; Guided Tour to Central Public Library (March 2024) with 18 participants; Guided Tour of (exhibit) and Learning Visit to The Hive, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) (March 2024).

Data Carpentry for Librarians Workshop – 7 and 8 March 2024

The Carpentries workshops returned to LAS after a long hiatus and was held in SMU Libraries. Taught by 2 librarians affiliated with [The Carpentries](#). The course is aimed at LAS members who are new to coding in R.

Librarians' Competencies Working Group

A working group has been set up to look at developing a national competency framework for information professionals across industries.

Membership Portal

The Membership Portal has introduced a new feature enabling the creation of exclusive member-only content. This functionality will be utilised by different committees to develop pages that necessitate member login for accessing the content.

LAS-PPM Get together on Zoom

The Council members of PPM and LAS renewed ties over a Zoom get together session on 21 March 2024.

