



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2024/25**



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Time flies and the Council for 2023 – 2025 will end our term on 17 May 2025. I am confident that the new team will take LAS to greater heights based on the foundation the Association has built in its past 70 years. I am really honoured to serve as President during this memorable anniversary which we have opportunities to address the challenges we face in our profession. Special appreciation to the Council members who joined me this term as they have put in tremendous efforts to ensure the Work Plan that we came up with in 2023 was delivered or to be continued in the next term.

To build a strong and united library field, we have embarked on a national Competency Framework for Information Professionals, which could be served as a guide for our professions across all institutions. The Training & Development Committee has shared the draft to the Council of Chief Librarians in Feb 2025 and would be sharing with members for more inputs. I have also shared the concept of a national Competency Framework with the Library Society of China, and was well received when they invited me to share at their annual meeting in Sep 2024 at Yi Chang, China. In addition, the Training & Development Committee have launched Learning Alerts for members to be aware of learning opportunities for professional growth.

I am also pleased to inform that the Web & IT Committee has successfully revamped the LAS Website in Apr 2025 with a brand new design. We hope members find it easier to navigate the information, especially to renew their membership. Our membership has also increased this year but we look forward to more members joining. On top of SLB and SJLIM, the Publications Committee has also completed the LAS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book and had started work on the Directory of Libraries. This year we have also seen many interested activities posted in SJB by the Programmes and Engagement Committee, such as walks and guided tours. The Programmes Committee is bringing us to visit interesting bookshops in Kuala Lumpur as well during the CONSAL conference in Jun 2025.

After a hiatus of a few years due to COVID-19, the LAS Conference: *Libraries for Tomorrow 2024* was back in Nov 2024. The event was well sponsored by various vendors and attended by over 300 professionals. Minister of State for Digital Development and Information, Ms Rahayu Mahzam, was the GOH. All thanks to the team led by the Vice President, who also looked after the LAS Awards Panel. We were glad that the LAS members (sponsored and not sponsored) who attended the IIFS conference in Brisbane in Sep 2024 shared with all other members about their excellent trip during the fireside chat.

With this note, I would like to congratulate the winners of the 2024 LAS Awards and deep appreciation to the Awards Panel. Thank you.

Soh Lin Li  
President  
Library Association of Singapore

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023 – 2025



Ms Soh Lin Li  
President  
National Library Board



Dr Sadie-Jane 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)



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 2025 (by Membership category)

Membership Category	December 2023	December 2024	% Change
Professional	113	140	23.9%
Associate	29	39	34.5%
Affiliate	0	0	0%
Life	97	97	0%
Honorary	2	2	0%
Professional (nonworking)	5	8	60%
Institution (Libraries)	24	24	0%
Institution (Schools)	6	10	66.7%
Institution (Others)	2	3	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>16.2%</b>

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

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

Summary of activities:

From June 2023 to March 2025, the T&D committee organized 1 LAS-NLB Professional Sharing Session, 2 library workshops, 2 online events, and sent out 3 Learning Alerts.

### Library Workshops

#### Data Carpentry in R for Librarians 7-8 March 2024



Trainers: Bella Ratmelia and Dong Danping (SMU Library)

Nine participants attended the session at SMU Library where the trainers walked the participants through using R to clean, organize and query a data set.

## Introduction to Team-Based Learning for Librarians 14 August 2024



Trainer: Umarani Jayapal (NTU)

Nine participants attended the engaging workshop at Woodland Regional Library (Everest room), where the session was filled with interactive activities. The trainer passionately delved into the fundamentals of Team-Based Learning, drawing from her wealth of experience. She highlighted how this collaborative learning approach not only facilitates the absorption of content but also encourages participants to learn from one another. The participants mingled over delightful refreshments, engaging in meaningful and interactive conversations where ideas bounced off each other, creating an atmosphere of lively exchange and collaboration. The participants also filled in online feedback forms given by the trainer.

### **LAS-NLB Professional Sharing**

#### Librarian Adventures in the Data Wonderland 10 November 2024

7 librarians shared their adventures in library data analytics to more than 80 attendees at the Pod, National Library. Presentation slides are available at the member portal.

## Online Events

### Democratizing Development: World Bank Open Access Initiatives 24 September 2024

**NLD National Library Board Singapore** **LAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE**

# DEMOCRATIZING DEVELOPMENT

  
THE WORLD BANK

In this session, World Bank Publishing Officer, Devika McWalters, will provide an overview of the Bank's open access initiatives and introduce the following free resources available to the public and librarians, including:

- Open Knowledge Repository
- Open Data portal
- Documents & Reports
- Reproducible Research Repository
- Archives

**24 SEP 3:30PM** **SPEAKER**  
**DEVIKA MCWALTERS**  
*Publishing Officer (Marketing & Outreach Lead)  
The World Bank*

 **Online via Teams**  
*Click on this eDM to register and secure your spot!*

This event is brought to you by the National Library Board and the Library Association of Singapore

Around 60 participants attended this sharing session where Devika walked us through World Bank's milestones towards making World Bank's reports and data freely available. She introduces the content and features of the Open Knowledge Repository, the Open Data portal and the Reproducible Research Repository.

## Fireside Chat with Librarians: IFLA Information Futures Summit 16 January 2025

**FIRESIDE CHAT** IFLA Information Futures Summit

Join us for an engaging discussion as five of our librarians share their experiences and key takeaways from the IFLA Information Futures Summit.

**16 January 2025**  
**3:00 - 5:00 PM**  
**MS Teams**

*Click here to register now!*

Organised by:  
**LAS** Library Association of Singapore (LAS)

LIBRARIANS: MINDY TAN, LIM SIU CHEN, ALEX FOO, SALIHIN, LAW LOO SHIEN

Over 40 people joined us at the Fireside Chat where 5 librarians who attended the IFLA Information Futures Summit in Brisbane in 2024 shared key takeaways and their thoughts about library trends and challenges ahead. It was a lively discussion with lots of laughter and fruitful discussions.

### **Launch of LAS Learning Alerts**

The LAS Learning Alerts were introduced in 2024 as a new initiative to support professional growth among members. Distributed via email, these quarterly alerts provide concise and timely updates on learning opportunities, upcoming events, and relevant resources. The initiative aims to offer an accessible channel for sharing information that encourages continuous learning and keeps members informed of developments in the library and information sector.

Past issues of LAS Learning Alerts can be found at the member's portal.

## **LAS Competency Framework for Information Professionals**

### Competency Framework Workgroup

- Gee Miaw Miin
- Jennifer Chor
- Jonathan Pradusook

The workgroup started work on the competency framework more than a year ago. On 27 June 2024, a brainstorming session with a diverse group of LAS members was organized to discuss key elements of the framework. Participants include Sin Sei Ching, Joanna (Assoc Prof, WKWSCI), Puspa YEOW (TP), Sharon Thien (MOE), Jane Wee (NLB), Ho Yen Wah (NLB), and Sarah Ruslan (SIT).

The draft was discussed at the Council of Chief Librarians on 10 Feb 2025. The revised draft is ready for members' inputs.

## PROGRAMMES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

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

From May 2023 to Mar 2025, the Programmes and Social committee organised 6 events, engaging a total of 42 unique LAS members in total, making up about 13% of our membership base.

Summary of activities from 2024 to 2025:

### 20 Sep 2024 – **LAS Socials: Southern Ridges and Casual Poet Library**

On 20 Sep, the Programmes and Engagement Committee organised the inaugural LAS Socials event series, which focuses on social activities to allow members to network in a casual setting, while promoting healthy lifestyle through physical activity. The LAS Socials: Southern Ridges and Casual Poet Library visit saw members first gathering at the Henderson to go up the Henderson Wave for a panoramic view of the south side of Singapore. We then walked about 3km through the Southern Ridges and ended in Bukit Merah, where we visited the Casual Poet Library, a community-run library which features cubby holes that can be rented by individuals to share their personal libraries with the library visitors.



### 16 Oct 2024 – **Guided Tour of Heritage Conservation Centre**

Collection Preservation and Conservation is one aspect of librarianship, therefore a guided tour to the Heritage Conservation Centre (HCC), which houses Singapore's national artefacts from the National Heritage Board (NHB) was organised for our members. The tour's objective is to learn about the collections that HCC collects and conserves, and learn some minor techniques that library professionals can take in terms of collection care of their own collection. It was a fruitful learning experience despite HCC being located in the deep west. In our excitement, we forgot to take a group photo with everyone!

### 22 Feb 2025 – **LAS Socials: Mandai Boardwalk**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> LAS Socials session took place on a beautiful Saturday morning at Mandai, at the rather newly open Mandai Boardwalk that brings visitors close to the waterlines of Upper Seletar Reservoir. The natural walkway behind the Singapore Zoo led us to close encounters with animals of nature such as squirrels, monkeys and monitor lizards. The walk was almost 4km, and our member's young children were energetic and game for the walk throughout! Did you know? Family members and friends can come along for LAS Social events unless otherwise stated!



# PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

## Committee Members:

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

## Singapore Libraries Bulletin (SLB)

Nine articles were published between April 2024 and March 2025.

### Special Feature



Get to Know Us!  
(3-part series on LAS Council)

### News from Libraries



AI Literacy Digital Learning Object Developed Through SMU Libraries & TP Library Partnership

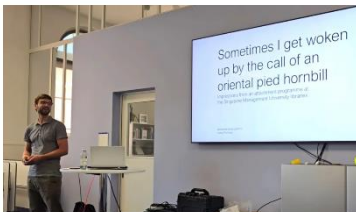


An "Aye" for AI? Librarians in the Age of AI



NUS Libraries at EDUTech Asia 2024: Showcasing Collections, Technology and Partnerships

### Professional Development Sharing



Professional Development Stay at SMU Libraries: AI, Critical Thinking, and Beyond



IFLA Information Futures Summit (IIFS) 2024: Stronger Together – Participant Reflections



How SMU Libraries' ELLSSA Programme Can Make You a Catalyst for the Digital Transformation of your Library

## Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management (SJLIM)

### **SJLIM Editorial Board members**

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

### **2024 Volume 50**

10 papers were submitted and four were accepted for publication. The issue was published in December 2024 on the [SJLIM website](#).

Published papers:

- *Exploring Knowledge Management Implementation: A Case of International Islamic University Malaysia*
- *IMU Moodle-Based Library Portal: Its Impact on the Librarians and Users at IMU University*
- *Joint-Polytechnics Libraries Collaboration*
- *Revolutionising Library Services: Transforming Lien Ying Chow Library to An Unmanned Patron-Centric Library*

*Erratum: 2023-2024 Annual Report*

*The correct volume number should be "2023 Volume 49", instead of "2023 Volume 39".*

## Other Projects

### **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book**

To mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LAS and PPM, a special commemorative book comprising biographies and interviews with past and current presidents will be published in mid-2025. It builds on the e-book that was produced during the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Directory of Libraries**

The last edition of the Directory of Libraries in Singapore was published in 2006. The committee is in the process of updating it and will be reaching out to LAS members to provide the latest information about their libraries. The directory will be made available online on the LAS website in the later part of 2025.

## WEB AND IT COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

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

### LAS Website Revamp

The team engaged a website designing company re-designed the LAS website. The new website will be hosted in Singapore. With the fresh look, improved navigation, and exciting new features, we have made it easier than ever for LAS members to find our key information. Security is improved after moving the new host. The new website will be launched by Apr 2025.

### LAS Website

LAS Website achieved 4,000+ views from 22,600 unique visitors in 2024, which is approximately 1% decrease from 2023. 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.

### LAS Job Portal

During 2024, the LAS Jobs Board (<https://www.las.org.sg/wp/jobs/>) published 24 library or library-related job advertisements, representing an approximately 40% decrease from 2023, during which the Jobs Board published 40 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:

The 2024 LAS Award winners are:

LAS Lifetime Contribution Award 2024 has been accorded to Puspa Yeow.

The LAS Professional Service Award has been accorded to:

Jenny Wong Pei Hong, Senior Librarian, Singapore Institute of Technology

The LAS Passion Award has been accorded to:

Xu Cong (Janna), Librarian, National Institute of Education

The LAS-WLIC Grant has been accorded to:

Malarvele Ilangovan, Senior Librarian, National Library Board

There was no other nomination for the LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award, or for the LAS Library School Scholarship 2024.

## 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](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 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

In conjunction with LAS' 60<sup>th</sup> 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 *8<sup>th</sup> 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 (LKCMedicine), Nanyang Technological University. She is in the midst of setting up the Heritage Centre for LKCMedicine.

#### LAS Passion Award 2017

The award goes to Mr Feng Yikang from NUS Libraries. Although only having been a librarian for the past four years, Mr Feng Yikang has proven to be an invaluable asset to the library profession, making numerous novel, pioneering, and impactful contributions to the ever-evolving field of digital scholarship. Therefore, Mr Feng was accorded the LAS Passion Award 2017.

#### LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award 2017

The LAS Outstanding Newcomer Award was given to Ms Lim Hwee Ming. Ms Lim joined Singapore Management University (SMU) Libraries in June 2014 as a fresh graduate from the Nanyang Technological University Masters in Library and Information Science programme. Over the past few years, she contributed to a wide range of activities and services at SMU Libraries, including cataloguing of library resources and supporting

all aspects of electronic resources management. She played an active role in the implementation and roll-out of the new Library Management and Discovery System in SMU.

#### LAS Overseas Library Professional Development Sponsorship 2017

The LAS Overseas Professional Development Sponsorship goes to 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 Jiabin, 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 Jiabin, 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.

65<sup>th</sup> 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 65<sup>th</sup> 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 49

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.

LAS-WLIC Grant 2023

The grant has been accorded to:

Salihin Mohammed Ali, Singapore Management University

Lim Siu Chen, National University of Singapore

There were no other nomination 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.



**2025**

### LAS Conference: Libraries for Tomorrow 2024 (5 November 2024)

LAS held its biennial event on 5 November 2024 at Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Novena Campus. The theme of this year's event is <Socially Responsible Libraries: Navigating AI, Sustainability and Inclusivity>.

The event was attended by over 300 professionals from diverse libraries across Universities, Polytechnics, Corporate Entities, Schools and the National Library Board Singapore. The event was officially launched by Minister of State for Digital Development and Information Ms Rahayu Mahzam.

The key speakers at the event are NLB CE Ng Cher Pong, Yeo Wee Siong (SkillsFuture SG), Glen Francis (Google) and Elsie Tan (Amazon Web Services). Afternoon session featured Library initiatives and panel

discussions, with speakers from Gene Tan, Jacky Wong, Natalie Pang, Aaron Tay, Sandie Loo, Janna Xu, Phyllis Toh and Karls Tan.

#### LAS Competency Framework for Information Professionals

A Competency Framework Workgroup comprising three members Gee Miaw Miin, Jennifer Chor and Jonathan Pradusook was formed more than a year ago to work on the competency framework. On 27 June 2024, a brainstorming session with a diverse group of LAS members was organized to discuss key elements of the framework. Participants include Sin Sei Ching, Joanna (Assoc Prof, WKWSCI), Puspa YEOW (TP), Sharon Thien (MOE), Jane Wee (NLB), Ho Yen Wah (NLB), and Sarah Ruslan (SIT).

#### Launch of LAS Learning Alerts

The LAS Learning Alerts were introduced in 2024 as a new initiative to support professional growth among members. Distributed via email, these quarterly alerts provide concise and timely updates on learning opportunities, upcoming events, and relevant resources. The initiative aims to offer an accessible channel for sharing information that encourages continuous learning and keeps members informed of developments in the library and information sector.

#### LAS Socials: Southern Ridges and Casual Poet Library

On 20 Sep, the first inaugural LAS Socials event series, which focuses on social activities to allow members to network in a casual setting, while promoting healthy lifestyle through physical activity was organised. The LAS Socials: Southern Ridges and Casual Poet Library visit saw members first gathering at the Henderson to go up the Henderson Wave for a panoramic view of the south side of Singapore. We then walked about 3km through the Southern Ridges and ended in Bukit Merah, where we visited the Casual Poet Library, a community-run library which features cubby holes that can be rented by individuals to share their personal libraries with the library visitors.

#### LAS Website Revamp

The team engaged a website designing company re-designed the LAS website. The new website will be hosted in Singapore. With the fresh look, improved navigation, and exciting new features, we have made it easier than ever for LAS members to find our key information. Security is improved after moving the new host. The new website will be launched by Apr 2025.



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