

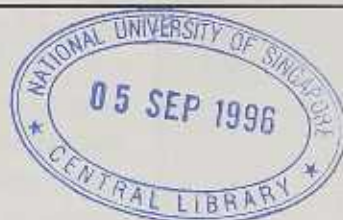
SINGAPORE LIBRARIES Bulletin AS

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CONSAL X Highlights



The Tenth Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians [CONSAL X], was held in Kuala Lumpur from 21 - 25 May 1996, and hosted by Malaysia. It drew over 600 participants from Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region (China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand), the Netherlands, Russia, the UK and the USA. The Singapore delegation consisted of over 40 professional librarians.

The initiatives of the Malaysian organizers, through the courtesy of the Japan Cultural Centre in Kuala

Lumpur, enabled the National Librarians of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to participate as well.

CONSAL celebrated its 25th anniversary this year, having had a rotational country hosting of its triennial conference turned around twice. It started off with Singapore in 1970 and in the second round, returned to Singapore in 1983. The third round will be in 2000 with Singapore as the host again.

CONSAL's membership comprises the National Library and Library

Association of each country as the core members which form the Executive Board, and all Southeast Asian professional librarians and institutions.

The Conference: Libraries for National Development

The Conference theme was *Libraries for National Development*. It was opened by the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim and closed by the Deputy Minister for Education Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn. The Malaysian

Tenth Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians
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24th May 1996



Singapore delegation at CONSAL X

CONTENTS

CONSAL 1996	1
Lib Assoc on Web Sites	5
Conf. on Bk Development	6
Interview with Chris Khoo	7
National Library Board	11
NUS Library	13
NTU/NIE Library	17
New Manager for TCS Lib.	17
Ngee Ann Polytechnic Lib.	19
SEALib	21
Visit by Carmel Maguire	23
A. F. Johnson - Obituary	23
Discounts for Members	25

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Singapore Libraries Bulletin

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Continues from p.1

organizers provided most generous hospitality with three official dinners, five sumptuous lunches and nine elaborate teas.

There were 56 papers, divided into 7 plenary (24 papers) and 10 concurrent sessions (32 papers), by more than 70 writers over four and half days of deliberations. The wide-ranging topics catered to diverse interests: *national information needs, library and society, libraries as agents for change, role of libraries in preservation, library management, human resources development, collection development and management, information technology, Internet in South-east Asia, electronic publishing, computer systems, information literacy, and information entrepreneurship*. The final session was devoted to *Plan for Action* where recommendations arising from the papers and discussions were debated and adopted for action by the next CONSAL XI which will be hosted by Singapore in 2000.

Papers from Singapore

Singapore contributed four papers: two at plenaries, and two at concurrent sessions. At the plenary on National Development and Information Needs, **Lim Siew Kim** of the National Library presented a paper entitled *The National Library in the new information environment*. The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) Library's **Ch'ng Kim See** presented the paper *SEANet: Southeast Asian libraries network of indigenous databases* at the plenary session on Information Technology.

Suliman Hawamdeh of ITC Information Technology Consultants

gave a paper on *Virtual library concept, implementation and the enabling technologies*. **Ann Lim Kwee Lang** and **Mark Hepworth**, both of the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), co-authored a paper on *Help systems of library automation systems*. Other Singapore papers were presented by NTU's **Cheah Horn Mun** and **Koh Thiam Seng** on *Internet libraries in science education*, and **Tan Ngee Tiang** of the Ministry of Education on *Promoting information skills in the primary school*.

Plan for Action

Instead of the usual conference resolutions adopted at the end of each CONSAL conference, CONSAL X departed from the practice by replacing it with the Plan for Action, having acknowledged that resolutions usually stayed as resolutions, but that perhaps a plan for action would be more realistic and pragmatic. This was underscored by adopting only three action plans:

Strategic plan: each library conceptualizes its own mission, vision and strategy plan in line with the country's vision and national development plan;

SEANet: each member country must develop its own indigenous databases to be integrated into a Southeast Asian network known as SEANet; and

Documentation and preservation of cultural heritage: each member country embarks on a project to ensure its cultural heritage will be preserved for posterity.

The SEANet proposal was adopted from Ch'ng Kim See's paper, and the National Library of Singapore was nominated to convene a meeting of a working committee to plan for this project.

Publications, Homepage, Photo Display, Library Tours & CONSAL *esprit de corps*

The publication of the conference papers filled three volumes; the third volume, containing the speech of the Deputy Prime Minister, the Plan for Action and six other papers, was published after the conference. A volume *Memorable journey: commemorating the 25 years of CONSAL* was specially prepared in time for sale during the conference.

A photographic exhibition portraying the nine conferences was also mounted. Memorabilia such as coffee mugs and T-shirts were on sale as well. An impressive multimedia show on the previous CONSAL conferences beginning from its conceptualization at Puntjak, Indonesia, was presented during an official dinner. Library tours were organized. A homepage

CONSALNet was mounted on the National Library of Malaysia Website to provide information on CONSAL X. This homepage will be transferred to Singapore for CONSAL XI to be held in 2000.

As part of the CONSAL tradition, a display of comradeship was sportingly manifested with each country delegation staging an amateur home-grown show on the final night, followed by photo sessions. The Singapore delegation brought on hilarious audience response when it comically depicted some cultural norms of its multi-ethnic population and foreign residents

Exhibition and Trade

There were over 30 exhibitors of book trade and information technology services. New library computerized databases and other office software provided an update on the state of the art; latest library equipment and supplies such as metal and wood shelving, and security systems provided sources of supply and comparative evaluation; and information database suppliers displayed their products.

Conclusion

In over just five days, CONSAL X was able to bring together more than 600 professionals. There were ample opportunities to network at tea breaks, lunches and dinners. It was an excellent opportunity to keep abreast with the state-of-the-art of library and information services in the region as indigenous professionals do not write much about their practice nor do they do much research or publish enough. The trade exhibitions gave updated information and showed new products.

The impressive Malaysian organizers, led by Puan Mariam Abdul Kadir, Director-General of the National Library of Malaysia as the Conference Chairman and Mr Chew Wing Foong, President of the Library Association of Malaysia and Chairman of the CONSAL X Executive Board, backed by a formidable team of senior and young Malaysian professionals from many libraries and institutions, spared no effort over a three-year period, to host a successful conference. Ultimately, it was the full weight of major institutions such as the National Library of Malaysia, the University of Malaya Library, and the National University Library, and some smaller libraries, behind the conference organizing that ensured the overall success – underpinned by the prerequisite infrastructural support and devotion of professional skills and time. High level support from government ministers and various ministries gave the conference a tremendous boost and paved the way.



R. Ramachandran from the National Library Board in performance

*Reported by
Ch'ng Kim See*

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Library Associations on the Web



Some library associations and groups have put their organisation on the Web. I have been selective and only included some of the interesting ones that I have come across. I hope you will find this selection of sites useful.

American Library Association

Their web pages have information about their organisation, divisions and committees, and on upcoming events like conferences, meetings and workshops. Check the ALA Divisions <at http://www.ala.org/alaorg/divisions_hme.html> for the homepages of individual divisions like **Library Information Technology Association** and **Association of College & Research Libraries**. There is a Library section which includes reference information, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and factsheets on libraries in the United States. They have discussed their plans for the future in Goal 2000. For publications and videos produced by the ALA, check the Marketplace.

URL is <http://www.ala.org>

American Society of Indexers

Their web pages include information on indexing comprising FAQs, history, tools and a bibliography. It also has links to Internet sources relevant to indexing.

URL is <http://www.well.com/user/asi/>

American Society for Information Scientists (ASIS)

Their web pages have information about ASIS and its achievements and includes selected portions of the recent *Annual Review of Information Science & Technology*. They have mounted the table of contents for their recent monographs. Abstracts of articles and papers in their journal and conference proceedings are also available.

URL is <http://www.asis.org>

Association of Independent Information Professionals

Their web pages have information about the association and membership. It includes a code of ethics for information professionals and information on a conference organised by the association.

URL is <http://www.aiip.org/aiip>

Association for Information Management (Aslib)

Their web pages have information about the organisation. It has fulltext articles from their journal, *Managing Information*, current awareness abstracts and details of Aslib publications. There is a **One-stop Information Service** which includes a bibliography of the month. The current topic is "Charging for Information".

URL is <http://www.aslib.co.uk/aslib/index.html>

Association of Research Libraries

Their web pages have links to its member libraries and even have job opportunities. Some of the statistical surveys done by the Association are available, e.g. their survey on library expenditure as a percentage of educational funds. It also has some links to electronic sources for topics like information policy and scholarly communication.

URL is <http://arl.cni.org>

Australian Library and Information Association

Their web pages have information about the association and includes policy statements on library issues like copyright and access to information.

URL is <http://www.alia.org.au>

Australian Society of Indexers

Their web pages have information about the society's objectives, conferences and publications. It also has links to Internet sources for indexing that includes thesauri and dictionaries.

URL is <http://godzilla.zeta.org.au/-aussi/>

Classification Society of North America

includes the table of contents for the *Journal of Classification* and the fulltext of recent issues of its newsletter. It also has information on relevant conferences, software, listservs, etc.

URL is <http://www.pitt.edu/~csna/>

International Federation of Library and Information Associations (IFLA)

Their web pages have information about the organisation and its publications. For some publications like the *IFLA Journal*, they have included abstracts. There is

Continues on p.23

Books for All: ASEAN Conference on Book Development

13-15 August 1996
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Pacific Rim will be the major focus for economic development in the 21st century. ASEAN countries will be the major players in contributing towards the development of the region through the creation and dissemination of the intellectual heritage of ASEAN countries. Publications from ASEAN countries will be a source of reference and will serve as research tools for academic and research institutions and also for those wanting to establish strategic alliances with institutions in ASEAN countries.

In accordance with this, there is a need for standards and quality control of book production; translation of foreign books to local languages; exchange of information on book publishing and book trade procedures; and exploitation of technology to enhance book production and publishing.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- Forum on ASEAN book scene
- Quality control of ASEAN publications
- Enriching ASEAN literature through translations
- Electronic publishing and digital books: Future trends
- Promotion of free flow of books in ASEAN
- Accessing ASEAN publications: Issues & challenges
- Book development and reading in ASEAN
- Strategic alliances and networking among ASEAN publishers



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Chris Khoo Returns With a PhD

In September 1991, the LAS Bulletin reported that **Chris Khoo** was leaving for Syracuse University to pursue a PhD in Library Science. Chris completed his PhD dissertation in December of last year and returned to Singapore in January. He has joined the faculty of the Division of Information Studies at NTU as a lecturer. Before leaving for the U.S., Chris worked at the NUS Library for nearly eight years, first as a Trainee Librarian and then as an Assistant Librarian. In 1987, he went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on an NUS Librarian Training Scholarship and obtained his MSc in Library and Information Science. Chris is married to **Liew Soon Kah** who is also a librarian.

We caught up with Chris recently and asked him about his stay in the U.S. and his plans for the future.

How was life as a doctoral student?

Tough! They make you work hard for your PhD. Syracuse has an excellent PhD programme in information studies. It is unusual in requiring the student to complete four research practica (research apprenticeship) as well as four teaching practica (teaching apprenticeship). In the first two years of study, the student is apprenticed to a different professor each semester to work on a research project. The problem is that most projects last more than one semester. It is not unusual for a research practicum to last two se-

mesters or more! The plus side is that the student usually has an impressive list of publications when he graduates. Also, having worked with four professors on research projects and four professors in teaching practica, the student has no problem getting people to sit on his dissertation committee and read his drafts. The practica expose the students to diverse research areas. I have worked in projects on information retrieval and natural language processing, legal information, decision science and group decision support systems.

How was Syracuse?

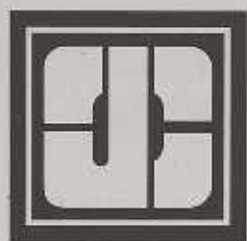
In a word, "ulu". Syracuse is considered a medium-sized city, but there's not much in it. The countryside is quite beautiful though. Syracuse is located in central New York State, five or six hours' drive from New York City. It is close to the Finger Lakes region, a wine producing area, and the Adirondacks, a forest reserve where Lake Placid is located.

I was impressed with the public library system at Syracuse. Membership is free for everyone, regardless of citizenship, and no deposit is required. All a library asks for before issuing a library card is proof that the address you give is your real address. The libraries are well-stocked with the latest novels. Both Soon Kah and I read novels voraciously – mostly science fiction and fantasy for me, and mystery for her.

The libraries also loan out movie videos and music CDs. Materials can be returned at any branch in the city or nearby towns, even though the libraries do not come under the same management or budget. There is no limit to the number of books members can borrow. In fact, none of the public and university libraries that I've used in the U.S. have loan limits for books. I am wondering if libraries in Singapore are being overly kiasu with loan limits.

The U.S. is a shoppers' paradise. There are fantastic sales, such as you've never seen in Singapore. 80% discounts are not uncommon. When a store really wants to clear old stock, it may keep halving the price every week or every day until the items are sold! Stores and manufacturers often publish discount coupons in the local newspaper. The big supermarkets double and sometimes triple the value of these coupons. So, one can save a lot by cutting, sorting, *classifying* and *indexing* the coupons. There are special wallets designed to hold these coupons! Occasionally, one makes a profit from buying something. You can get something almost free if there is a sale and the store also doubles a coupon. In addition, you may be able to mail to the manufacturer a rebate coupon and get back more than you paid for the item! Yes, indeed, Soon Kah had a great time with the shopping!

Despite all these goodies, we never seriously considered staying on in

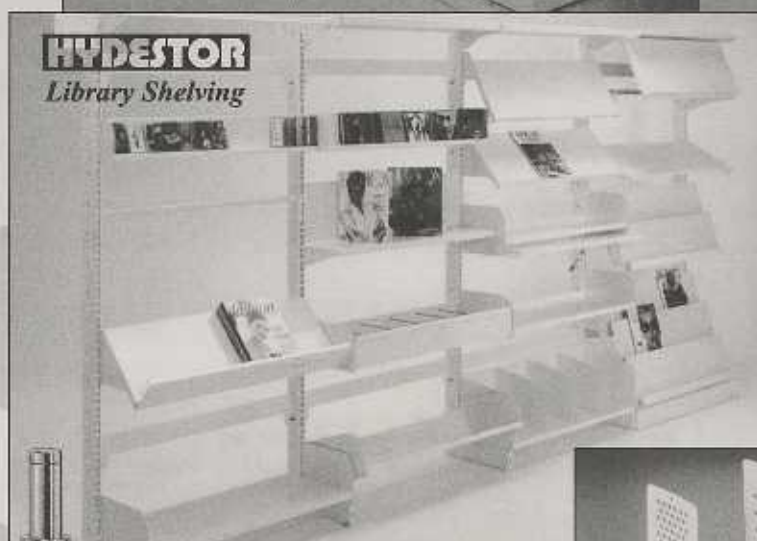


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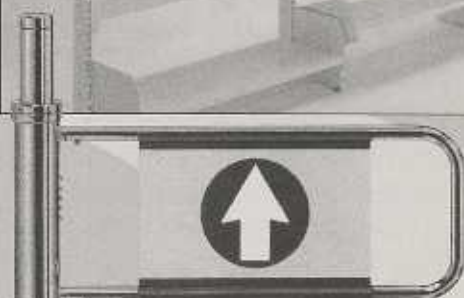


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the U.S. Singapore is where our hearts are, and we're glad to be back!

Did you travel much in the U.S.?

Not as much as we wanted to. We were planning a grand tour after my dissertation, but the bad winter weather put paid to that. We had a second-hand 4-door Hyundai Excel that served us well, and took us to nearby cities like Boston and Washington D.C. Soon Kah learned to drive and got a New York driver's licence. She found that she enjoyed life in the fast lane – preferably above 70 mph.

One summer, we drove all the way to St Louis on the Mississippi. We stopped over at Urbana [University of Illinois] where I did my MSc, and stayed at the home of the director of the Urbana Public Library. I visited my former adviser, Linda Smith, but didn't manage to see Prof. Lancaster who was away.

How do you find Singapore after being away for so long?

It seems more crowded than ever. It's push and shove everywhere. On the other hand, I'm amazed at the number of eating places. Coffee shops and food courts abound, and most stalls are pretty good.

What are your plans for the future?

Do research, teach, and help advance the profession. As you know, I've always been interested in doing research and encouraging colleagues in the profession to do research. My primary research interest is in information retrieval, natural language processing and expert system front-end to online catalogues. These are the more technical areas of library and information science. I'm also

interested in the "softer" areas of the field, but one can do only so much. Certainly, there is increasing recognition in our profession that user studies and qualitative research are vital for improving the design of information systems. And believe it or not, many researchers in the artificial intelligence, MIS and cognitive science areas are interested in the theory of classification. Many of them are reinventing the wheel.

I'm very glad that a library school has been established in Singapore – and not only because it provides me with a job! I fervently believe that a library school is crucial for the profession to flourish and be a major player in the information society that is evolving in Singapore. I hope my fellow librarians will support the school at NTU – as well as the technician's course at Temasek.

On its part, I think the school can play an important role as "bridge builders" – helping LAS to build bridges among members of the profession, providing a bridge for bright young people to enter the profession, and building bridges with other professions, with research funders, and with policy makers.

I have been with the Division of Information Studies for one and a half months and I can honestly say that we're lucky to have such a fine team of teachers, thinkers and professionals in the division.

Would you encourage other librarians to pursue a PhD?

Most certainly. Library and Information Science is a very interesting field - lots of exciting developments and opportunities. I urge any librarian who is interested in research and writing to consider doing a PhD at NTU (yes, we're accepting doctoral students) or abroad. We need more PhD's in the profession. But I must warn would-be PhD's that it takes a lot of commitment not just from the student but also from the student's spouse and family and even relatives! It's no small task putting a husband or wife through a PhD programme. Just ask Soon Kah!

*Interviewed by
Ross Harvey*

Division of Information
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Dr & Mrs Chris Khoo

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NEWS FROM LIBRARIES IN SINGAPORE

National Library Board

JURONG WEST COMMUNITY LIBRARY:
the first of its kind

The Jurong West Community Library was officially opened by Mr Ho Kah Leong, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of The Environment and MP for Jurong, on 22 March 1996. In his speech, Mr Ho said, *"In its report, the Library 2000 Committee emphasised the crucial role that libraries play in supporting the entire spectrum of our population in acquiring new knowledge and skills. Our continued competitiveness is dependent on a population which makes a conscious effort to learn throughout their lives. Opening more libraries is certainly a positive way to facilitate people to upgrade themselves continually."*

The Jurong West Community Library located on level 4 (via lift) of the *Jurong Point Shopping Centre*, next to Boon Lay MRT Station/Bus Interchange, is the first of its kind in Singapore. This prototype library is based on a new concept proposed by the Library 2000 Review Committee who suggested that new community libraries be located in commercial or institutional buildings in town centres to draw larger crowds. By siting the library in a shopping centre, the National Library Board is making access to the library very convenient by bringing library services to the community, and hence, reach out to more readers.

The Library has a floor area of about 1,250 sq m and an initial collection of 60,000 items, which comprises popular books, magazines and CD-ROMs in the four official languages. Users of all age groups will enjoy a lending service of books and magazines. The public are able to access the OPAC, Internet, CD-ROM, Televue and InTV services. The Library also has four self-service terminals for readers to borrow and return books on their own.

Besides going to the shopping centre to eat, shop or watch a movie, we hope that families and individuals will visit the community library and make it a total learning and enriching experience.

The Jurong West Community Library opened its doors to the public on 23 March 1996.

OPENING HOURS

Monday – Friday	12 pm to 9 pm
Saturday	12 pm to 5 pm
Sunday	1 pm to 5 pm
Closed on Public Holidays	

CONTACT NUMBERS

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NEVER TOO YOUNG TO
READ: A Conference on
Pre-School Reading

The Conference, held from 13-14 April and attended by 300 participants, was organised by the NLB for parents, teachers and caregivers of children under six years old. Its aim was to encourage those present to read to children from an early age, even to babies. Mr Chew Heng Ching, Chairman, GPC for MITA and Member of Parliament for Eunos was the Guest-of-Honour.

The keynote speaker was Dr Caroline Feller Bauer who is one of America's foremost ambassadors of reading. Her message was very simple: *Read, and you can travel the world over.* She sang, told stories, performed magic tricks, recited rhymes, and thoroughly captivated the audience. She even managed to persuade the distinguished guests to go up on stage wearing masks and participate in one of the stories.

Other speakers present were well-known author Dr Ng Seok Moi who came all the way from New Zealand and Mrs Linda Gan who spoke on book selection for children.

Dr Bauer conducted a special session for the young children who accompanied their parents to the workshops, treating them to a great time of story-telling.

Continues on p. 15

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Library Accessions goes Online

The monthly library accessions list, known as **New Titles of the Month** is now available online in Library InfoGate with effect from 1 July 1996. The database will be updated monthly and is accessible campus-wide via NUSNET-II.

This new database comprises bibliographic data of print and non-print titles which are newly acquired by the NUS Library. Monographs, serials, videocassettes, slides, films, computer files and microforms are included.

The records can be retrieved by author, title, subject heading, series and call number. If the number of records retrieved is too large, you can further limit your search results by library or classification code.

The system provides two formats to display the retrieved records. The brief format displays the BRN, author, title, edition, publication data and holdings information. The full format, in addition to these fields, also displays subject headings and series title as follows:

Document Number 000001230
 Author Johnson, Leslie.
 Title Being an effective academic.
 Publication Data Oxford : Oxford Centre for Staff Development, 1994.

Subject Headings

College teachers.
 College administrators.
 Self-efficacy.
 BRN (Bibl.ref.no.) 896282
 Location/Call No
 Loc.....Call No.....Copies
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SMC Ondisc

18 May 1996 marked the official launch of **SMC Ondisc**, a CD-ROM produced by the NUS Library in collaboration with Informit, the commercial arm of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. SMC Ondisc was issued to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the National University of Singapore. It is the first bibliographic CD-ROM produced by a tertiary institution library in Singapore.

SMC Ondisc, to be issued twice a year, will provide quick and easy access to over 100,000 bibliographic citations on Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and ASEAN (as an entity). Although the bibliographic citations are already available in LINC and Library InfoGate, putting them in SMC Ondisc will be a boon to all researchers interested in this region but without any access to LINC and Library InfoGate. The three databases available in SMC Ondisc are:

• Singapore/Malaysia Collection

The Singapore/Malaysia Collection database has over 30,000 bibliographic citations. The Collection is particularly strong in source material tracing the various aspects of the development of Singapore, Malaysia and Borneo (excluding Indonesian Borneo) from their founding through the period of colonial government up to independence and thereafter. A good deal of this source material consists of microfilmed items of public records, government documents, rare serials, newspapers and manuscripts. Other valuable items include company reports, current journals, directories and theses submitted to universities abroad. The materials are mostly in English, with a smaller number in Malay.

• NUS Theses Collection

The NUS Theses Collection comprises over 19,000 higher-degree theses and academic exercises submitted to NUS and its predecessor institutions and which are deposited in the NUS Library. The earliest item in the Collection dates from 1947.

• PERIND

PERIND, the Index to Periodical Articles relating to Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and ASEAN (as an entity) contains over 57,000 cita-

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Artech House, I.N.C., U.S.A.	Marcel Dekker Inc., New York
Balkema Publishing Co., The Netherlands	Martinus Nijhoff Pub. Group, The Hague
Bauverlag, GmbH, Germany	MIT Press, U.S.A.
Birkhauser Verlag, Basel	Mouton Publishers, Germany
Biomedical Press, Amsterdam	MTP Press Limited, England
D. Reidel Publishing Co. The Hague	Munksgaard, Denmark
Dr. W. Junk BV. Publishers, The Hague	North-Holland Publishing Corp. Inc., Amsterdam
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Elsevier Science Publishers, The Netherlands	Pergamon Press, Oxford, England
E.J. Brill, The Netherlands	Pudoc Centre for Agricultural Publishing and Documentation, Wageningen, The Netherlands
Excerpta Medical Publishing Corp. Inc., Amsterdam	Physica-Verlag, Germany
Elsevier Publishing Corp. Inc., New York	Raven Press, U.S.A.
Ernst & Sohn, Germany	Springer Verlag, Wien, New York, Berlin
Foris Publishers, The Netherlands	Siemens, Weinheim, Germany
Gale Research, U.S.A. (Stockists)	Trans Tech Publication, Switzerland
Geo Abstracts, England.	United Nations, U.S.A.
Institute of Physics, (IOP) England	Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, New York
International Organisations Services, B.V. (IOS), The Netherlands	Walter de Gruyter, Berlin
John Benjamins, B.V. Amsterdam	World Health Organization, Geneva
K. G. Saur, Germany (except Singapore)	World Scientific Publishing Co., Pte. Ltd. S'pore

We have books from the above publishers in stock with us. If titles are not available ex-stock, they will be supplied to you within 2-3 weeks' time. If you wish to receive regular advance information on these publishers' forthcoming titles please let us know and we will place you on our mailing list.

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tions from more than 250 core titles of local, regional and international journals. The bulk of the citations are in English and most of them date from 1980 except for medical citations (from 1975) and legal citations (from 1932). The subjects covered range from the humanities and social sciences to business and management, architecture, building, law and medicine. In addition to periodical articles, book reviews are included.

Although the database focuses on Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and ASEAN (as an entity), some of the records have a wider scope of coverage to meet the different needs of the participating libraries in the NUS Library System. The medical citations, in particular, include those periodical articles published in Singapore and Malaysian medical journals as well as articles written by Singapore and Malaysian medical doctors published in international journals regardless of topic or geographical area. Similarly the legal citations include almost all articles appearing in legal journals published in Singapore and Malaysia regardless of topic or geographic area.

The software used for SMC Ondisc is the well-known SilverPlatter

SPIRS software.
SMC Ondisc is available from:

Informit
PO Box 12477
A Beckett Street
Melbourne
Victoria 8006,
Australia
Fax no: +61 3 9349 4583

Staff Movement in the NUS Library

Mrs Teo-Phoon Moi Ying is appointed Acting Head of Media Resources Dept in the Central Library with effect from 8 May 1996. She takes over the headship from Mrs Dora Yeo.

Mrs Dora Yeo is appointed Head of Acquisitions, Technical Services Division in Central Library, with effect from 8 June 1996. She takes over the headship from Miss Patricia Gaw.

Miss Patricia Gaw has resigned with effect from 31 July 1996. She was in charge of the Acquisitions Department since July 1972.

Continues from p.11

Computer Roadshow

This is a fun and interactive exhibition for the family. Come and find out more about how IT can help your children learn better and also how it can improve your own leisure hours. Also included will be talks, contests and other fun-filled activities. Jointly organised by the National Computer Board and the NLB. The exhibition will be opened during library opening hours.

23 - 25 August
Bedok Branch Auditorium
30 August - 1 September
Jurong East Branch Lecture Hall

We Have Moved!

The National Library Board's new office is now at:

1 Temasek Avenue
06-00 Millenia Tower
Singapore 039192
Tel: 3323133
Fax: 3313233

Offices located here are:
Corporate Services (administration, finance, human resource);
Corporate Development (Corporate Communications, Manpower & Industry) and Library Development Group.

The public and reference library sections, technical services and computer services are still at the Stamford Road building.

"Working with the National University of Singapore Library on this project has been a pleasure. The project was completed within four months. We have long been interested in working with Southeast Asian data providers and are delighted that NUS agreed to participate in the first venture of this kind."

Sandra Oxley
Head, Informit at the launch of SMC Ondisc

*Contributed by
Low Eik Sin &
Francisca Cardoza*

NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

National Institute of Education

The Nanyang Technological University invites applications from suitably qualified persons to work in the National Institute of Education at the present Bukit Timah Campus.

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The commencing salary will depend on the candidate's qualifications and experience. Those who have served full-time National Service will be granted incremental credits according to the period served. Advancement to higher grades will be given to those with consistent good work performance.

Applications must be made on prescribed forms obtainable from the following address either in person or in writing (mail or fax):

Head/Library
National Institute of Education
469 Bukit Timah Road
Singapore 259756
Fax No: 46697466 :: Tel. No: 4605249

Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

The Challenge of Change Libraries & Economic Development

62nd IFLA COUNCIL & GENERAL CONFERENCE

25 - 31 August 1996

Beijing, China

More information available at:

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca.iflaIV/ifla62/62intro.htm>

Nanyang Technological University/NIE

¶ Promotions

Ms **Loi Sai Bay**, Asst Librarian I and currently Head/Serials Unit, was promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian on 1 July 1996

Ms **Yvonne Yin**, Asst Librarian and currently Head/Cataloguing Unit, was promoted to Assistant Librarian I.

¶ NTU Library Staff Exchange Programme

NTU (Nanyang Technological University) has initiated an exchange programme among the librarians at

its two sites, namely, Yunnan Garden and Bukit Timah (NIE) Campus.

Mr Yam Wai Ho, Asst Librarian, Acquisitions Unit, Bukit Timah Campus, is currently on a 6-month long attachment to Yunnan Garden. He will be at the Circulation Department for three months before going on to Resource Dept., Library 2, and Media Dept. for two months and one month respectively.

In exchange, Ms **Alice Chua**, Asst Librarian, Yunnan Garden, has gone to the NIE Library on attachment to the Reference and Cataloguing units.

¶ NIE Library Publications

NIE Library has recently come up with a NIE Library Homepage on the World Wide Web (WWW).

The address is :

<http://www.nie.ac.sg:8000/~wwwlib>

A new library publication, "*Library handbook for students*", will be published in time for the new academic year.

Submitted by
Yvonne Yin

E-mail address:
yiny@nievax.nie.ac.sg

Television Corporation of Singapore (TCS) Library

Mr Chin Kee Soon has been appointed the Library Manager of the Television Corporation of Singapore (TCS) Library with effect from 15 June 1996. An SBC Scholar, Mr Chin is 28 years old with a First Class honours degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the Imperial College and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of New South Wales.

Prior to his appointment as the Library Manager, Mr Chin was with the Engineering Dept of the Corporation for two and a half years taking charge of the Maintenance Unit.

Under the new administrative structure, some of Mr Chin's responsibilities would include the development of the TCS Library as the information hub and archival centre of the Corporation and see to the completion of its computerisation project BLISS, a Digital Library which is accessible to all outside TCS.

Submitted by
Mah Chin Keak

Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library

The Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library has unveiled two innovative approaches to improving services.

¶ The Electronic Accessions List

The NP Library's Accessions List is now accessible at the following URL on the NP Library Home Page:

<http://www.np.ac.sg:9080/library/newtitles/>

The above URL has hyperlinks to listings of Books, Periodicals, Media Titles and CD-ROMs.

Enhancing the value of the Accessions List is yet another way of tapping the potential of the Web. Each title in the list of new books displayed on the Internet, for instance, is hotlinked to scanned images of its cover and contents to help users make informed decisions of the books they wish to read. We have also incorporated the reservation function into the Accessions List so that users can immediately reserve items of interest online. This is a quick and convenient alternative to filling in the Reservation Card, particularly for those who have multiple reservations to make. Updates to the Accessions List are made at more frequent intervals, that is, on the 1st and 15th of every month instead of the previous practice of issuing monthly listings. About 60 titles are posted on each update. The New Books Display in the Library foyer has also been timed to synchronise with updates on the Web.

For periodicals, each new title is linked to the image of the contents page of the current issue. The no-loan policy for current issues ensures that users will be able to locate the title in the Current Periodicals Room.

Contents of media and CD-ROM titles are indicated by summaries, with additional images from the titles included if they are helpful in making selections.

The Quality Resource Centre Home Page also has a similar Accessions List for titles specific to the QRC collection.

The above enhanced features of the Accessions List mean greater convenience for Library users. From *any location* linked to the Internet at *any time of the day*, users may browse through the listings without the need to step into the Library. Moreover, concurrent access by different users to the contents of the same title is possible, something which a conventional book display can never accomplish.

The high statistics registered for the New Titles option attest to the popularity of this value-added service with our users.

¶ NP's Regional Business Resource Centre

In line with the national drive towards regionalisation in Singapore, the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library,

in collaboration with the Business Studies Department, has set up the Regional Business Resource Centre. The focus of the Centre's collection is information on trade business and investment with the various countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including China, India, Hong Kong, Australia, Malaysia and Myanmar, and other emerging economies with which Singapore has business connections.

Located in the Reference Section of the Main Library, the Centre will particularly benefit lecturers in regional business seeking information or contacts for consultancy work with small- and medium-sized enterprises, students taking the international marketing module and interested external members.

The Centre provides information on basic economic data, business sectors and industries, trade laws and regulations, investment procedures, tax policies and regulation, import/export procedures, business incentive schemes, business contacts, marketing and distribution channels, infrastructure, travel, geography and culture, as well as the role of governments, chambers of commerce and other organisations in promoting business and trade. The focus is on the business environment and the ways in which business is actually conducted in the various countries. Specialised reference materials, including newspaper clippings, travel-related information, investment literature of pro

Continues on p.21

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FEDERAL PUBLICATIONS

Federal Publications is a member of the Times Publishing Group, one of Asia's largest publishing and printing groups. Established in 1957, Federal Publications is one of Singapore's foremost publishers of educational books for the primary, secondary and pre-university levels.

OUR IMPRINTS



This imprint publishes a wide range of quality books and teaching aids for young learners. Available from Earlybird Books: *Early Learning Books, Information & Reference Books, Story Books, Activity Books & Wall Charts.*

TIMES ACADEMIC PRESS

Times Academic Press is the academic publishing arm of the group. This imprint publishes high quality, well-researched scholarly books and journals mainly on Southeast Asia.

The BRITISH COUNCIL Library & Informa- tion Services

is offering free, ordinary library membership to all LAS members. The Library is located at:
30 Napier Road.

Also, tickets to "Cinderella" by the Singapore Dance Theatre are available at 10% discount to LAS members. Please contact Vasanthi at Tel. 4707164 for the tickets.

Continues from p.19 (Ngee Ann Poly Lib)

Professional bodies and consultancy firms and periodicals on the region are all conveniently housed within the Centre to facilitate access. Users may also ask for access to databases such as Reuters Business Briefing, Business Periodicals OnDisc, China Investment Guide, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Tariff Database, besides a range of other related databases.

The Library staff have also created an Asia-Pacific Regional Business Resource Home Page linked to practical business information on the Internet. News on the politics and economics of the region, tourist and cultural information, and information services put up by the various chambers of commerce are accessible via a clickable map of the region.

The Centre's resources aim to assist in developing broader regional business perspectives. The collection promises to grow with the increasing prominence of the regionalisation thrust in our nation's economic agenda. □□□

Southeast Asian Librarians' Forum

¶ SEALib

SEALib (Southeast Asian Librarians Forum) is an Internet mailing list set up and maintained informally at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies as a professional platform to promote communication, exchange of ideas and discussion on common issues and mutual concerns amongst professional librarians in Southeast Asia. It will also serve as a notice/bulletin board to post news of professional activities, projects, research, conferences, seminars, workshops, publications, library-based and related IT activities and development.

If you wish to subscribe to this list or would like more information about this list, on your Internet Email, please address to:

sealib_s@iseas.ac.sg

If you want to subscribe to the list, at the message/contents column, type:

Subscribe<Your Full Name>

To unsubscribe, at the message/contents column, type:

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To post information, news etc., please address to:

sealib@iseas.ac.sg

This mailing list is not a moderated one. It is manually maintained. Please allow one week for your name

to be added or removed from the list.

This pilot project has recently been adopted by the Persatuan Perpustakaan Malaysia (Library Association of Malaysia) (PPM) and the Library Association of Singapore (LAS) Joint Liaison Council Meeting and the Joint Meeting of the Bibliographical and Library Cooperation Committees (BILCOs) of both Associations in celebration of 25 years of CONSAL (Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians). Singapore will host the next CONSAL XI.

If this pilot project is successful, it may be developed into a fully automated mailing list in the first phase. In subsequent phases, it may be expanded into a discussion group, a full-blown bulletin board and/or a website to host the CONSAL homepage and network – *CONSALNet*.

It is hoped that all Southeast Asian libraries with access to Internet will sign up on this list so that we may communicate better amongst ourselves.

*Submitted by
Ch'ng Kim See*

Head, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Library

E-mail address:

chngks@iseas.ac.sg

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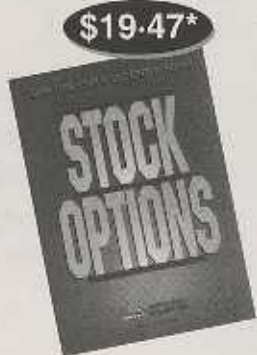
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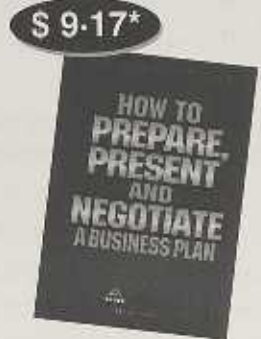


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Visit & Talk by Carmel Maguire

Professor Carmel Maguire, Honorary Visiting Professor, School of Information, Library and Archive Studies, University of New South Wales, gave a most informative talk to a small group of members from the LAS on 30 May 1996. The topic was "Who needs education in Library and Information Studies (LIS) anyway?" Her paper highlighted the reasons library schools are in danger of extinction and suggested several ways they can prosper and survive including the need to be even more involved in research and publishing. LIS education must espouse a better understanding of the client, emphasize information services and needs to market itself.

UNSW Alumni Listserv

If any member would like to subscribe to the University of New South Wales Alumni Listserv, send your request to:

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and in the body of the message type: **subscribe silas-alumni**

Once you have subscribed in this way, you will receive the welcome message and you can send mail to the list by addressing it to:

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Obituary

Albert Frederick Johnson (1916-1996)

Albert Frederick Johnson died in England on 2 February 1996. In the course of his working life of 45 years, he served in three public libraries, three universities, six library schools, two national library services (one of which included his sixth library school) and one State Library. His professional life was spent in six countries including working as Senior Assistant Librarian in the University of Malaya and Deputy Librarian in the University of Singapore in the years 1962-1966.

Fred's main interest in librarianship was teaching which he carried out with distinction, covering all stages from in-service training to supervision of post graduates researching for higher degrees. Dozens of young librarians around the world received their introductory guidance and professional standards from him. As a professional librarian he published a number of books including: *Practical Cataloguing*, *A Programmed Course in Cataloguing and Classification*, *A Bibliography of Ghana* and *Books About Malawi*.

Members of the LAS would like to convey their sympathy to Colin, his son.

Continues from p.5

information on the forthcoming IFLA conference in 1996 and the fulltext of some papers from the 1995 conference. They have also gathered some pointers to topics like cataloguing, copyright, policy and library humour under the section on Electronic Information Services.

URL is <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla>

Institute of Information Scientists

Their web pages has information about the organization and jobs. It includes portions from their newsletter *Inform*, like industry news, and events. It also has a link to table of contents from their *Journal of Information Science*.

URL is <http://www/dcs.gla.ac.uk/IIS/>

Library Association (UK)

Their web page contains some brief information about the activities of the Association.

URL is <http://www.bic.org.uk/bic/la.html>

Research Library Group

is 'devoted to improving access to information that supports research and learning. These web pages offer information about what we do...' They include information on how to contact them, news, and matters of current interest to the group.

URL is <http://www-rlg.stanford.edu>

Special Library Association (SLA)

Their web page has information on SLA officers, departments, divisions, career services, conferences and news. URL is <http://ils.unc.edu/SLA/home/sla95.html>

Compiled by
Lim-Yeo Pin Pin
NUS Library
E-mail: clblimpp@nus.sg

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20% on all category of rooms in Oct. & Nov.
25% for the rest of the year
10% on F&B consumption at the Coffee Shop,
Poinsettia Room & the Marigold Bar

Others

Sentosa Development Corporation
1 Garden Avenue #03-00
Singapore 099621

	<u>Sentosa Orchid Garden</u>	<u>Sentosa Orchid Garden</u>
Adult	S\$1.50	GASJ Restaurant
Child	\$0.50	20% off for meals above S\$10

House of Colour
UK's Premier Analysis & Image Consultancy
Contact Sara Dean Image Consultancy
Call Tel: 733-3196 for enquiries

Members will get 10% off for studio consultancy on the following services: Women's Colour Analysis; Women's Image; Men's Image; Skin Care & Make-up

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