



MEDIA RELEASE
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International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)
Inc.

Leadership through school libraries

Two emerging leaders in school librarianship, from developing countries, have been awarded grants by the International Association of School Librarianship. The awards provide a cash award of US \$1,000 to first time IASL conference delegates.

The Jean Lowrie Leadership Development Award has been made to Rachmawati from Indonesia. In her application Rachma said, “I want to meet librarians and teacher librarians from other countries so I can learn the best practices they have done and also learn from the experts in school librarianship.”

She is one of the National Committee of the Indonesia School Librarian Association which was founded in May 2009. The association has set up programs to develop school librarianship in Indonesia.

The director of the school where Rachma is the head of the library stated, “Rachma has demonstrated a strong work ethic and a dedication to success. She improves her professional skill and knowledge continually by attending seminars and workshops and puts in her best effort to apply it in the library program at school. One example is the information literacy program. She introduced the concept to the whole school community, got the support from the management and implemented it by working collaboratively with teachers.”

The Ken Haycock Leadership Development Award has been made to Keith Kuda Munyuengeterwa, who is a lecturer in the library training school at Bulawayo Polytechnic in Zimbabwe. Keith was identified by the Awards Panel for his leadership in providing training for school library professionals and supporting the development of school libraries in Zimbabwe.

An IASL conference will provide him with opportunities to broaden his knowledge and understanding of school librarianship especially the new trends and developments that are happening in other countries. Keith said, “I am coming from a developing country with less development in school libraries. Meeting other colleagues will open up a new world for me and help me bring change to the school library practices in my country.”

Announcing the award, President James Henri commented on the challenges of developing efficient library services and the training of school librarians in developing countries.

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