



MEDIA RELEASE
28 September 2010
International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)
Inc.

IASL conferences: An evaluation of the attendance pattern of participants 1998-2010 -

The Takeshi Murofushi Research Award has been made to Paulette Stewart from Jamaica to provide funding toward a research project. The project aims to

- determine what factors motivate participants to attend their first IASL conference,
- ascertain why participants attend IASL conferences regularly,
- identify the challenges that prevent participants from attending the IASL conference regularly, and
- make recommendations to improve attendance based on the findings.

In our present environment, school librarians are challenged to improve their performance, to be proactive and remain on the cutting-edge

Announcing the award, President James Henri commented on the need for current research that will help IASL to make better decisions about strategic direction as it relates to planning and organising future conferences. “Conferences are of critical importance to school library staff in how they provide library services and learning opportunities to the students,” Mr Henri said. “The result of this report could also support research on the analysis of IASL conference proceedings undertaken by Dr Marcia Mardis.”

The International Association of School Librarianship comprises student, personal, association and institution members, from over 75 countries, committed to enabling young people to develop literary and cultural appreciation and to use information effectively through the improvement of school libraries and school library programs as a vital component of education.

Information about membership and the awards program is available on the IASL website: <http://www.iasl-online.org>