



International Association of School Librarianship

PRESIDENTIAL POINTS

After a long, extra-hot summer in Texas, the weather is cooling down. For many folks around here, this welcomed change coincides with the beginning of our school year, a long-repeated rhythm in community and family life.

It's exciting to see school library displays welcoming new students and returning readers, to hear plans for International School Library Month, and watch for the publication of new books by favorite and soon-to-be favorite authors.

Every season brings us opportunities for new endeavors and renewed energy for continuing projects. What's familiar in your school library could be a new project for another – how are you sharing with your community and the global school library community?

IFLA on my mind

Just as you are a member of IASL, our Association is a member of IFLA – the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions.

In August, I attended my first IFLA World Library and Information Congress. Convened this year in Kuala Lumpur, it brought together over 3000 librarians from 112 countries to discuss both large issues and very specific interests. Look for reports in this issue highlighting IFLA WLIC sessions on the global scene for school libraries.

Of special note were the hundreds and hundreds of dedicated Malaysian library volunteers who helped everything run smoothly at the 2018 WLIC – thank you again for your warm hospitality!

There are also volunteer opportunities in IFLA for you. Prior to the 2019 IFLA elections, IASL will nominate one person to serve on each of the Standing



Committees that we hold membership in. Look for details in this Newsletter issue, and mark the fast-approaching application deadline.

Additionally, we are seeking two members for the IASL-IFLA Joint Committee on School Libraries, so consider this option as you read its report

Of course, our IASL Committees are always open to you! Check the current list here <https://iasl-online.org/about/leadership/committees.html> for these committees whose work is done fully online. Contact the committee chair to learn more; if no chair is listed, contact me, please.

Whether your school year is drawing to a close or going strong or beginning anew, please take a moment to send me your favorite project or way to volunteer as we build our profession and our students' library lives together.

Yours in school librarianship,
Katy Manck

President, International Association of School Librarianship
Katy.Manck@gmail.com

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October is International School Library Month

BY BREEGE O'BRIEN, CHAIRPERSON, ISLM

As I write, celebrations for ISLM 2018 are getting underway in school libraries around the world and participants are focusing on this year's theme, "Why I Love My School Library". ISLM is open to all school libraries, whether members or non-members of IASL. Registration for activities facilitated by the ISLM Team – bookmark exchanges (both postal and digital) and skypeing - is busy and the registration of groups from all corners is an indication of the truly international appeal of the month-long event. In addition to the activities organised by ISLM, school libraries will no doubt have their own ideas for things to do during October. Details of how to send reports

about your ISLM celebrations this year will soon be updated on the ISLM web page at <https://www.iasl-online.org/advocacy/islm/index.html> which provides resources and links you might like to explore and where you will find information that may be useful in helping you to successfully complete the activities you registered for. New for this year is an animated ISLM logo designed by students from Secondary School No. 43 in Chelyabinsk, Russia, provided courtesy of their school librarian, Elena Adishchev.

The ISLM Team wishes you happy ISLM and we look forward to hearing from you about all the reasons why your students love their school library!



IFLA Standing Committee Nominations Sought for 2019-2023 Term

BY KATY MANCK, IASL PRESIDENT



The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is inviting nominations of persons to serve on its Standing Committees for the period August 2019 to August 2023.

IASL, as an institutional member of IFLA, is entitled to nominate a candidate for several sections, including:

- Information Technology
- Asia and Oceania
- Literacy and Reading
- Management of Library Associations

(Our IASL folks on the Education and Training SC, School Libraries SC, and Information Literacy SC whose first terms end in 2019 have submitted their requests for re-nomination; a person may serve two consecutive terms)

Please see the IFLA website www.ifla.org/activities-and-groups#-sections for more information on each Section.

Each nominee agrees to attend the IFLA Section meetings held during the annual IFLA conference in August annually and the Section mid-term meetings (usually held in March or

April) during their four-year term, without cost to either IASL or IFLA.

Serving on a Standing Committee provides opportunities for professional development, networking with colleagues from many different countries, and helping to advance the profession in specific areas of practice.

If you wish to nominate yourself or know of someone who is willing to be nominated, please submit the name, contact details, together with a brief summary of relevant experience or expertise in the field of the Section, to IASL President Katy Manck at Katy.Manck@gmail.com by 1 November 2018 so that we can send the Nominee's application form which must be completed and emailed to the IASL Secretariat by 15 December 2018.

IFLA-IASL Joint Committee Opportunity

BY KATY MANCK, IASL PRESIDENT

IASL and the IFLA School Libraries Section maintain a collegial relationship through our IFLA-IASL Joint Committee which includes five members appointed by each body. Our work together has included input on the IFLA School Library Guidelines (2nd edition <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/9512?og=52>), as well as its many translations and workshop presentations.

There is one vacancy on the IASL side for the 2019-2023 term, and interested persons are invited to contact IASL President Katy Manck at Katy.Manck@gmail.com to apply.

You must be able to pay your own expenses to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (held each August) in order to fully participate in the Joint Committee's work. Committing to travel similarly to the School Library Section mid-year meeting in March/April is a plus.

Read more about this committee and the School Libraries Section at www.ifla.org/about-school-libraries and consider signing up for the IFLA SCHOOL-L listserv.



Meet the IASL Board: Annie Tam

REGIONAL DIRECTOR: EAST ASIA

Annie Tam, IASL Regional Director – East Asia, is currently working as the Head Librarian of Secondary at the Independent Schools Foundation Academy (The ISF Academy), Hong Kong, China. She completed Master degrees in Teacher-Librarianship and in English Language Education.

Before she became a teacher-librarian, she was a secondary school English Language teacher in Hong Kong and Singapore for over 10 years. She enjoyed working with teenagers. As a classroom teacher, Annie always collaborated with the school librarian to instill in her students passion for being a lifelong readers.

Annie Tam has been a teacher-librarian for ten years, working as an MYP and DP librarian in two different IB schools. Currently she is the Head Librarian of Secondary at the Independent Schools Foundation Academy (The ISF Academy) which offers a unique education in Hong Kong. As an internationally accredited independent school offering a Chinese and English immersion education with a global perspective, ISF strikes a balance between tradition and innovation, between East and West. In support of the ISF Academy's mission and vision, the libraries feature an

inviting, friendly, service-oriented, student-focused environment that encourages the exchange of ideas, intellectual curiosity, learning, and discovery. In addition to quiet study, the libraries provide resources and services that meet the informational needs of their students. As a centre for teaching, learning and research in the school, the libraries provide access to recorded knowledge and information that is consistent with present and anticipated informational needs at The ISF Academy.

Annie Tam is an active member of school/teacher-librarian groups/associations in Hong Kong such as Hong Kong Library Association (HKLA), Association of Librarians in English Speaking Schools (ALESS) (Hong Kong) group and the Hong Kong Teacher-Librarians' Association (HKTLA).

She has served as Honorary Secretary and School Libraries Liaison Officer of the HKLA for a total of six years. She has given presentations at the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) Annual Conference and also mentored other school/teacher librarians through being a part-time course instructor at the Hong Kong University School of Professional and Continuing Education (HKUSPACE). In August 2018, she was invited as a



guest lecturer to run a workshop for a group of Japanese school/teacher-librarians, which was sponsored by a Japanese Government Grant.

As IASL Regional Director for East Asia, she likes to be active within the organization. She believes IASL is one of the best platforms available for professional sharing among school librarians on an international scale, since it contains diverse viewpoints from school librarians, who are practicing in different schools in different parts of the world.

Spreading the Love for Reading: Let's Read Librarians!

BY SEEMA SATTI - LIBRARIAN, LEARNING PATHS SCHOOL, MOHALI, INDIA



Learning Paths School Building

Reading maketh a full man,' very well said by Francis Bacon. Currently, the schools are giving a lot of impetus to encourage students not only to read, but also on improving their reading skills. The first stage of reading begins at home where the parents, grandparents read storybooks to their toddlers. The Board books, Audiobooks, touch and feel books introduce to the child the alphabets, words, characters and pictures. Children start developing an interest in holding the book, enjoy the smell of the book, the illustrations and pictures in the book delight them.

School is the next formal institution where the child learns to recognize the alphabets under the guidance of the facilitators. The educators use varied techniques to introduce phonics to the beginners to help them with reading words and text. For example-use of flash cards, classroom boards, puzzles and board games are being used for the purpose.

Every school has a library lesson in the class timetables and the students visit the library to read and borrow the books. Here comes the role of a qualified librarian who needs to ensure that the

children enjoy reading books. The school librarians need to bring in a revolution, a change, a reform in the ways they have been taking library lessons. Let's transform our libraries and build a reading community in our schools! Here are a few ways we can spread the love of reading to our young learners.

1 Well Equipped Library: Our library should have all kinds of genres and age-appropriate resources to cater to the individual readers. The library collection should incorporate fiction, non-fiction, reference books and other teacher resources to support learning and teaching. Some students may like to read science fiction and some might prefer biographies. Therefore the library collection should be vast, varied and user-centered.

2 Library Displays: The school librarian can showcase his/her creativity by having a beautiful display some specific books, authors, series or on important themes and events. These displays should be put outside as well in the library to gather needed attention. This certainly attracts and invites users to visit the library, Also it creates curiosity among the students to inquire, read and learn.

3 Active participation of the librarian: The librarian should design and prepare active programs and projects so as to inculcate reading among its reluctant and struggling slow readers. The librarians can design the reading strategies for the students to ensure and also take storytelling sessions at regular intervals. We should partner with the school teaching faculties and parents to promote reading.

4 Proactive Librarian: The librarians must assess the users by making a user study as to what their students want to read. Such kinds of surveys can be done easily by talking to the students when they visit the library. The interaction with the students about what they have read and what new books they want to read will surely help in connecting with the pupil. Students need to be assisted while choosing a book while they are browsing the shelves. Students will definitely take interest in putting their queries to the friendly librarian who listens to them and suggests them the right book at the right time.

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5 Collaborating with teacher faculties: The librarians should come out of their library walls and collaborate with the teaching staff. For example: In the English lesson, students could be given creative writing prompts on books, authors. The students can also do a project study on any author and his/her works. Teachers must ensure the use of the library by involving students to do projects on dictionaries, encyclopedias, author study and more. Teachers must make book recommendations to the library and the librarian should promote their events, books to the faculty. Invite teachers to share their favourite books and authors with the students. Librarians must collaborate with the teachers to plan projects and events that involve the school library and its usage.

6 Librarians need to read: The Librarians themselves should have reading habits and a passion for spreading the same in their surroundings. A librarian who doesn't like to read could never create a community of readers. The librarians should become active readers; discuss the authors and books that they have read with their students. Also, they should be sharing their reading

experiences with their students as well as the staff. This certainly gives the librarian the confidence to handle students' queries and also helps in building a friendly bond with the reading community.

7 Update their knowledge: The librarians should have an urge to inquire and learn about the current literature relevant for the students. They need to update their knowledge as to what the reading community would like to read and what they should be reading. They should become a part of the various school library associations -national or international to learn and collaborate with people from the same profession. They should learn about the various useful tools and websites provide the bibliographical details of the books. They should gather information about the award-winning books to be procured in their library. Many school blogs and websites like Amazon and Goodreads provide such information.

8 Librarians to become Reading Buddies: The school librarian should become the reading buddies of their students. They should be reading aloud their favourite books to the students and

students should also be encouraged to do the same. The librarian needs to be child-friendly so that the students don't hesitate to ask for help. The students will always enjoy reading with their partner, especially the struggling readers. The students should be guided and assisted in their reading so that they become confident readers. In this way, the librarians will stimulate the students in reading and gain information. For example, they can play the game on the main characters from the book they have read. The librarians can arouse the interest of students by giving them information about the new authors, new books and various reference resources.

This way, the School Librarians can build a Reading School and create a Nation of Readers. A well-learned librarian will always make an effect on the child's personality. Librarians are the travel guides who take their readers on an amazing journey to the land of adventures, fairies, Narnia, wizards and more. A guide could only take the passengers to the right path if he/she knows the directions or has taken that path before. We Read and help others Read should be our mission from now to build a Reading School.



Students in the Learning Paths School Library

Author Profile

Ms. Seema Satti is working as a School Librarian at 'Learning Paths School, Mohali'. I am a founder librarian at Learning Paths School and have a 10 years experience in the profession. I have done my Masters in Library and Information Science and Public Administration from Panjab University. I have qualified for UGC NET (Public Administration) and also done 'CIS-ELT' (Certificate in Secondary English Language Testing) an online course from the British Council. I love reading as well as writing.

A Swedish “World Class” K-3 School Library

BY DR. LESLEY FARMER, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH



Stapelbäddsskolan School Library

While at a conference on science and technology education in Malmö Sweden, where I presented on Fake News, I visited the Stapelbäddsskolan school library. This public school for K-3 students is situated in a growing area where new families are arriving. Its school library was recognized by peers as a world class school library. No wonder why.

Henrik Urbanusson is its lively, creative school librarian. As soon as you walk in the door you see his touches: a huge tabletop computer “tablet” with school apps, window seating, storytelling “amphitheater,” function-based lighting, and realia to exemplify resource subject areas. He works hard to provide an attractive relevant collection for both students and teachers. He has genrefied the collection, and teaches a unit on genres, which affirms the resources’ arrangement. It should be noted, though, that he promotes reading across genres, and asks students to create stories that mixes genres, such as a humor and sports. He also has a strong and engaging library portal: <https://sites.google.com/a/skola.malmo.se/sdgr/mediateket>. It includes reading and reading promotion suggestions, links to other library and literacy sources, curriculum and sample student work, and tips for parents and others.

Henrik strategically approaches library instruction thematically for each grade, especially in collaboration with the ICT teacher.

- In kindergarten he uses picture books to discuss how to “read” pictures, address immigration and inclusion, and more.



Henrik Urbanusson

- In first grade, the theme of strange animals examines everyone’s uniqueness, compare facts versus opinion, and culminates in a competition to create a fantastic animal and its characteristics (e.g., biome, eating habits., etc.).
- In second grade, the theme of genre explores literary and format genres. Students compare different treatments of stories (e.g., Harry Potter as a movie, book series, game, merchandise). As noted above, students also manipulate those genres in original ways.
- In third grade, the theme is newspapers, which students read, critique and produce. They also explore the Internet in terms of format and content, including evaluation of resources.

Henrik loves working with the youngsters, and literally meets them at their level. He is always looking for ways to attract and engage them, sweetening the experience with his playful humor. He sums up his library philosophy this way: *“In a school library you never wait, you create.”*



Infograph of the Library’s Genrefied Collection

WHAT'S THE STORY? GIGGLEIT SHARES WITH THE WORLD



Kids have their own view of the world around them – and other readers want to experience it!

Take advantage of IASL's free GiggleIT Project for global student writing through school libraries and share your students' creative work with the world

The 2018 theme invites them to write poems about lucky things and stories of the balance between good fortune, bad luck, and hard work. Schools can also use local themes or try a previous year's Showcase Projects.

Visit the GiggleIT page at <http://IASL-online.org/advocacy/GiggleIT> for all the details or contact the GiggleIT Project team at IASL.Giggle.IT@gmail.com.

Key to Bringing Users Back into the Library

BY ABID HUSSAIN, LIBRARY OFFICER, INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES ISLAMABAD

Educational institutes in every nook and corner of the world offer library services to facilitate their users in research activities. But, in the current scenario, unprecedented challenges are being faced by libraries across the globe, even the wealthiest libraries are struggling to meet the growing demands of their users in this age of technology. The relentless pace of change combined with increasing levels of complexity and ambiguity are creating difficult and at times chaotic work environments. Hence in the midst of static or declining budgets is all the more need for new and improved skills and services.

Albeit information storage, collection development, access and distribution systems are key factors that play an important role in academic activity and are therefore important services offered by libraries. However, if the libraries do not offer such services and support such activities set forth by the faculty and academic programs, then, the role of libraries will remain dormant and futile in this growing day and age of technology. Hence in order for Libraries to maintain their role and prominence as actual learning centres need due up gradation.

The taxonomy of library services replicated in three terms, which are traditional, contemporary and emergent, the traditional services include access,

collection development, management and information assistance while contemporary services deal with, teaching, learning, outreach and engagement services. But the main focus of library experts is on emergent/emerging services which include student services and scholar services. The scholars and students are the key elements of any library which needs to be developed by adopting a proper strategy. Libraries throughout the world are appealing their users to use these resources for optimum benefits. But, without proper strategy and planning, we cannot achieve these goals.

In present times, the concept of a traditional library along with services provided has evolved. In traditional library set ups, rules are usually hard for common users. For example, library members were not even allowed to touch the books on the shelves. However, the modern library of today is now more about, assisting and networking and what not. Gone are the days when the library users were sitting in the library all the day long making notes and recording relevant data on specific subjects. Now in the new and evolving environment libraries around the planet have become democratic institutes, where, users find everything and anything on their specific topic under one roof in a conducive learning environment with peace of mind.

Although the Mobile era along with



Author: Abid Hussain

creasing and new technologies and world wide web have adversely affected the youth, yet one still has to bring the youth back inside the library, a question clinching many academic minds.

While various experts in academia, library practitioners have suggested a number of different strategies, as a librarian I propose the following strategy which, if implemented will increase the number of users in academic and public libraries globally.

Congenial atmosphere in summer and winter seasons may be provided to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

library users. Many library users are complaining about library timings in academic institutes, so, the timings may be increased with additional staff and fixed remuneration. Wi-Fi has become an essential part of the research, many users are in his/her first visit asking about Wi-Fi facilities, the library must have such facilities to attract more users.

In higher educational institutions mostly peoples are asking about research databases. It is the duty of concerned library to provide them access to the Modern databases.

RFID (Radio-Frequency IDentification) is a new shape of modern technology being implemented in various libraries in developed countries. Under this technology, books and similar items may be scanned through the theft-detection system.

Computers are the basic tools of modern technologies, which direct the users to search for their desired material. Those libraries which do not have computer services in their libraries are depriving the users. Therefore, computer services with high-speed internet may be provided which will automatically lure in more users.

In past days the users were getting the library material out for printing and photocopying purposes, but in modern libraries, a separate corner may be reserved for printing and photocopying in order to provide timely services to the students and faculty members.

In present days library, many libraries have launched tea bars and coffee services for their users, mostly in old days students were spending more times in canteens, but many libraries have not even introduced these services for their researcher in order to spend more time inside their library.

Advanced countries have launched a drawing section in their libraries, where they are presenting the latest art and painting of their alumni and students. So such section may also increase an interest level of their students, faculty members and scholars.

When construction a new library, the architecture must keep in mind that, there should be smoking corner for all chain smokers, by taking this initiative many

users will spend more time in the library, if there is no such corner, all smokers will spend more of their precious time outside the library.

The traditional art and craft system using the physical material such as 3-D printers, audio and video capture and editing tools are new services offered by library professionals to patrons are considered as Marker space services. By launching these services in the libraries. More people will share their technicalities.

Many serious researchers are looking for study booth and carrels, they ought to be provided such spaces inside the library.

Many libraries don't have washroom facilities inside the library. Washroom facilities in a separate corner may also be provided to the researchers and library users.

The mobile Charging system is new services being launched in the modern library. There should be a mobile charging desk under the custody of library staff to overlooks the costly mobile of their users.

Similarly, the SMS alert system may also be provided to the enrolled students regarding library news, fresh arrivals and other library activities.

Those libraries which don't have online public access catalogue facilities are considered as a traditional library. The OPAC services may be provided to the patrons in order to search books and other material that what sort of library material provides by this library.

Public education on how to use electronic resources are new services, the library staff must educate their users about their electronic and digital library services from time to time.

The modern library does offer Email services to their end users. The users may be given chance to connect themselves with library staff in case of any demand or research queries.

The library staff may enhance the user's interest while organizing different literacy programme.

As in the age of technology, different services have been introduced to provide update knowledge to their end users. The Up-gradation in Technology from time to time may also be encouraged to enhance the reader's interest.

The youth are searching for the job after availing the degree. The library staff may organize the job hunting techniques for the youth by inviting experts in relevant fields, similar other programmes may also be introduced for the youth inside institutions.

An Oscar award movie or best academic award-winning movies week may also be organized for the patrons to get some free time to watch the movie. These services have also been launched by present days libraries at national and international level, but, the higher authority may be involved by taking this initiative. Literary cultural day may be organized for the students such as Poetry programme etc.

Social networking through different media may also be launched in order to increase the interest level of the users. These services may also be provided to the end users.

Instant messaging reference services are new services being launched in various library in developed countries. Web 2.0 technologies are the demand of the day, these technologies may be used to interconnect the users that what the library has to offer.

Visitor log system may also be used to produce daily, weekly and monthly report of the library visitors, by adopting this system, the library staff may note the number of users who visits the library on daily, weekly and monthly basis.

The current era of technology has doubled the role of library services, one can find the location of the libraries through virtual tour media. One can visit the library from different angle through this technology.

RSS feeds services may also increase the interest level of the users, this technology may be made a part of the modern libraries.

Keeping in mind the aforementioned strategy, as a veteran librarian who is very supportive of adapting to change I can say without a doubt that if the following suggestions are implemented, your library will become a hub of knowledge and there will be far more visitors.

The writer is working as Library Officer at Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), a think tank based in Islamabad.

Attending IFLA as a First-Time Member of the School Library Standing Committee

BY DR. MELISSA P. JOHNSTON, UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA, USA

In the spring of 2018 I was honored to be chosen to represent IASL as a member of the IFLA School Libraries Standing Committee and welcomed into this committee as we started to prepare for the IFLA conference in Kuala Lumpur and the School Libraries Section satellite session on the *IFLA School Library Guidelines* (2nd edition, 2015).

After making the long trip to Malaysia, the School Libraries Section satellite session was the first thing on my agenda. IASL was well represented at this session, with over a dozen members attending and four members presenting. It was wonderful to be a part of this session with 43 attendees from nine countries. After the presentations of the various chapters, roundtable discussions were held to discuss each area. It was such a great learning opportunity, even for me as a presenter – to learn from school librarians from around the world, reaffirming my own research conclusions, that we as school librarians throughout the world experience the same challenges.



Sattellite Group

I was also excited to attend my first two School Library Section business meetings with a standing room only crowd of people who are involved in and care about school libraries on a global scale. Joanne Plante, the Chair, ran the meeting and led the discussions on future presentations at the next IFLA conference in Athens, Greece 2019, while Albert Boekhorst, the Information Coordinator, discussed website updates and communication options such as the School Section email list and blog. Other items discussed included the possibility of future publication and access to publications, an update from Division 1, sharing of resources from members, including our own IASL President Katy Manck, and elections in 2019. Finally, I was honored to be selected to replace Karen Gavigan as the Chair of the IFLA/IASL Joint Committee.



School Library Section

As an educator of future school librarians, the highlight of the meeting for me was the preview of the new book *Global Action on School Library Education and Training* (in press) edited by Barbara Schultz-Jones and Dianne Oberg (to be released Dec. 3, 2018). This book looks at issues related to educating school librarians and includes chapters from authors around the world on preparing future school librarians to enact the roles from the IFLA School Library Guidelines (2015). In a separate session sponsored by the School Libraries Section, one of the editors, Barbara Schultz-Jones, and several of the authors including Karen Gavigan, Bella Zhang, Rei Iwasaki, Elizabeth Burns, Valerie Glass, and Isabel Mendhinos presented an overview of their chapters.



Author Group

The entire IFLA World Library and Information Congress was an amazing learning experience! It was also an opportunity to meet and network with other information professionals around the world. The satellite session on the IFLA School Library Guidelines and the School Library Section provided time to learn from and share with others who share my passion for school libraries.

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An Effort for Forecasting the Competencies of School Librarians of Karachi, Pakistan

BY ARIBA WAHAB, SECRETARY, SCHOOL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION, KARACHI, PAKISTAN



Panel Discussion Underway

Libraries are considered to be the heart of any academic institution. School libraries are not an exception, however, there is a dire need to help school administrators and librarians understand the role and importance of school libraries in building not only essential literacy skills, but prepare younger generations for personal and career success. 21st century School libraries are dynamic spaces of learning no more

a warehouse of books. In Pakistan, a concrete effort and platform is required to promote this understanding and create frameworks and programs for supporting school libraries of public and private sector. Keeping this in view, a group of volunteers working at school and university libraries from Karachi came forward and coined the idea of formulating a school library association. The following goals have been established for the association



Mr. Khalid Ahmed Sharing His Views



Mr. Khalid Ahmed (in center) being presented with organic vegetables basket by Mrs. Amtul Sajjad (left) and Director School Libraries Association-Mr. Nooruddin Merchant (right)

- Establish standards of practice for the key areas of professional work
- Provide services to members in support of their professional practice
- Advocate for the profession
- Develop professional discipline area through research and publications
- Formulate strong relationship between the association and communities (staff, professionals, institutions, friends, etc.) and external strategic partners such as fundraisers
- Build stature of the school libraries profession/career

Inauguration ceremony of **School Libraries Association** in collaboration with the **Goethe Institute, Karachi** was organized at **Dawood Public School (DPS)** on Saturday, 14th July 2018.

Mr. **Khalid Ahmed**, renowned Actor, Director, Producer and Theater Drama teacher was the Chief Guest of the event. He appreciated this effort towards the betterment of libraries and indulging students in reading habits. He also said that this is one of the most important need for current and future society and



School Libraries Association Team with Guests

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nation building. Prof. Malahat Kaleem Sherwani-Director Bait ul Hikma Library, Hamdard University, Karachi, Mrs. Nuzhat Kidvai- Educational Consultant from Beacon House School System and Dr. Farhat Hussain- Associate Professor Department of Library and Information Science, University of Karachi also participated in the event as panelists and shared their valuable

insights on problems and skills required to address challenges of school libraries and librarians in the panel discussion entitled "Future of School Libraries"

The panelists also shared their views on the role and importance of 21st century School Libraries as dynamic spaces of learning instead of warehouse of books. They also shared valuable suggestions on

provision and improvement of libraries of public sector schools.

The ceremony concluded with awarding mementos to the chief guest, panelists and sponsors.

School Libraries Association is a not-for-profit endeavor of group of volunteers working at school and university libraries from Karachi, Pakistan.

***The 48th Annual Conference of the Association
of School Librarianship***
&
***23rd International
Forum on Research on School Librarianship***

**OCTOBER 21-25, 2019
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA**

Watch the IASL website for conference news and updates!

**EARCOS Librarian Weekend: Reading and Research
Across Language and Culture**

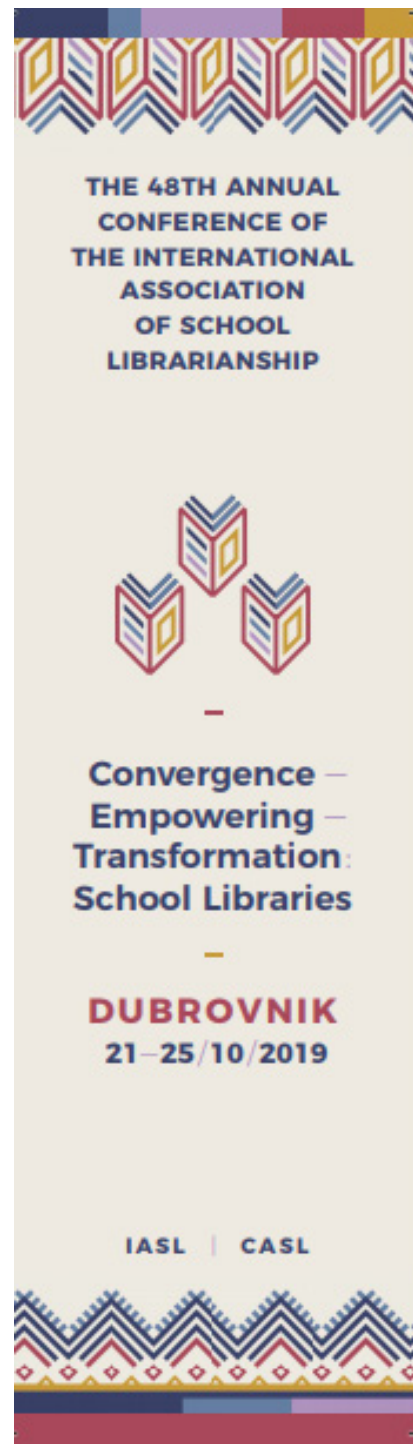
SAVE THE DATE - March 29-30, 2019

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Aussie Books for Zim Brings More Knowledge to Another Rural Community

BY HOSEA TOKWE

Introduction: Rural communities in Zimbabwe are still yearning for social and economic development that leads to better literacy. For this to occur, schools need libraries with books as tools that will not only benefit school-going children but also entire communities, creating a wave of empowerment. The desire to have a well-stocked library with adequate books thus urged the Chinembiri SDA Primary School authorities and their School Development Committee to call upon Aussie Books for Zim to donate books for their school library and conduct a school librarians' workshop on August 19, 2018 in Rusape, Zimbabwe.

Preparing the Journey: Dr. Alfred Chidembo, founder of Aussie Books for Zim based in Australia, asked me to travel to Chinembiri Primary School for the first time and conduct a School Librarians' Workshop and also hand over books to the School and its community as an Aussie Books for Zim library advocate. I asked myself, "How would I travel, whom would I go with and who would host us?" Unbeknown to me, Dr. Chidembo had done all the groundwork, transport logistics, media coverage, and linking me up to the school authorities.

Taking Off to Chinembiri Primary School: Our eager Aussie Books for Zim team, led by board member Bessie Matambo based in Australia who had travelled to Zimbabwe, set out on August 19 for Chinembiri SDA Primary School in Rusape, bringing two boxes with cloth bags, school library manuals, pens, posters, bookmarks and children's books, pens, erasers, school bags for ECD, and seventeen boxes containing primary level books for grades one to seven on science, mathematics, English, social studies, history, geography, and reference books.



Dignitaries: The Local Chief in white dress flanked by Mr Tokwe (brown jacket) and the local councillor. Looking on are Chinembiri School Deputy Head – Mr Dumba, School Head – Mr Muvuti and Aussie Books for Zim – Board Member: Bessie Matambo

Upon arrival at Chinembiri Primary School, the team were received warmly and escorted to the headmaster's office where they were introduced to the headmaster, Mr Muvuti, deputy headmaster, Mr Dumba, the school library committee, local chief, councillor, and headman. As with any proud community, a school tour that ended up at the library venue where the book donations were held was organised.

School Librarians Workshop: The programme for the School Librarians Workshop included a welcome speech from the headmaster and keynote speech from the schools' district inspector.

Bessie Matambo gave a background presentation, chronicling the origin of Aussie Books Zim and touching on Dr. Chidembo's journey from Mavhurazi Primary School

through his childhood experience until his first encounter with a school library in Masvingo. This ignited his love for books and reading, transforming him into an avid reader who excelled in his studies and University education, ultimately earning a PhD in Materials Engineering from the Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials at the University of Wollongong in Australia. That passion for reading led him to back to the community that nurtured him, hence the birth of Aussie Books for Zim, a not-for-profit organisation which to this day has shipped over thirty thousand books, stationery, library furniture, and school uniforms to Zimbabwe. The Chinembiri community were overwhelmed by this presentation; they ululated, whistled and gave thunderous applause.

"It is of utmost importance to highlight the importance of school libraries and the value they bring to their communities," Mr. Tokwe said in his speech to the participants. He emphasised the value and importance of a school library, it being the heart of the school. A school library is critical to the child's future as it introduces children to life-changing books, turns young minds into lifelong readers opening up doors to the future and the world around. He went further to say the school library enriches teaching and learning programmes, because within the library are texts and literature that suit children of all levels. It also adds value to the unique school community in that it is an integral part of the cultural and social life of the school and a central point for the whole community.

After his presentation, Mr. Tokwe gave each of the participants from Chinembiri School, Katsenga Secondary School, Kadzunge Primary School, Ruwombwe Secondary School, Ruhwerumwe Kadzunge Secondary, Mahere Primary School, and Katsenga SDA Primary School, a Sage Publications cloth bag, containing pens, notepads, bookmarks, and posters. He also presented six t-shirts



School Heads, Deputy Heads, SDC Representatives who attended the Workshop listen intently during the proceedings

donated by Dr Helen Boelens' team from the Care Farm in the Netherlands to the elders including the local Chief and Village Councillor of Chinembiri community so that they would promote school libraries wherever they went. Finally, a box full of ECD materials, school bags, toys, kids' t-shirts, and erasers were handed over to the school head.

Mr Mukucha, from the National Free Library in Bulawayo, also a library advocate with Aussie Books For Zim, spoke about how to set up, administer and organise a school library when books arrive. In his presentation, the importance of establishing and administering a school library was emphasised using examples of libraries established in rural Matabeleland and the work involved. He said when books are acquired, the first thing is to acknowledge and record those in an accession register, instead seeing them remain in boxes gathering dust. Next, he discussed the organization of information and how it is important to enable the librarian to quickly identify a book. He gave an example of how women who sell their produce organise and categorise their wares like tomatoes, onions, carrots and beetroots. Finally, he handed over some handouts on Dewey Decimal classification, although there wasn't time for practical exercises to give the school librarians the skills on the stages involved in assigning a class number to a book, as he had hoped.

The school headmaster then gave a speech, giving statistics on the school enrolment, and progress made,



Chinembiri School prefects show off Sage Cloth Bags after the Workshop

particularly the establishment of the library and the tiling of the room. He was overjoyed that with the books having arrived, the school library would now be a centre for information encouraging school children and teachers to develop a reading culture. He also took the opportunity to thank schoolchildren for having come, as well as their parents and the community leaders for their support.

Book Presentation: The moment all had been looking forward to arrived. To witness this very momentous occasion in the history of Chinembiri Primary

School, a number of people were called upon speak, including the Chairperson SDC, Chinembiri School Head, Aussie Books for Zim Board Member, local Headman, School Head Boy and Girl. First Mr Tokwe gave a short speech detailing how these two thousand books were sorted out and categorised according to subject, level and grades so that they would easy to identify.

Three boxes full of books were brought to the high table amid ululations from the community. The photographer brought the dignitaries to order and snapshots were taken as Mr Tokwe and Bessie Matambo presented the books the

Chinembiri School community. This was followed by group photos of all the community members and school children present. Finally, the community present and the team from Harare were all treated to a sumptuous of goat meat donated by the local chief.

A Memorandum of understanding between Aussie Books for Zim Board Member – Bessie Matambo and Chinembiri Primary School Head was signed, as witnessed by Mr. Hosea Tokwe and Mr. Lewis Mukucha, thus bringing to finality the day's programme.



Aussie Books for Zim Team and Chinembiri School Authorities showing off the signed MOU

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Proceedings Archives Coming Soon

BY JENNIFER L. BRANCH-MUELLER



Work is under way to make all conference proceedings of the IASL (all the way back to 1971) available in open access format with metadata that will include title and author(s) of papers as well as editor, conference location, and year. This is important work because much of this amazing work has not been shared or been freely available to practitioners, international researchers, and students. I am thrilled that these

wonderful papers will soon be available. But I need your help.

Luckily, I have a good collection of the proceedings from Dr. Dianne Oberg and some are archived on the IASL website. Now I am just trying to track down some missing ones. If you happen to have any of the following and can scan and share with me, that would be great. Or if you can send to me by mail, I can arrange for the proceedings to be scanned.

Here is what I am missing:

2010 Brisbane; 1989 Petaling Jaya, Malaysia; 1981 Aberystwyth; 1979 Denmark; 1977 Ibadan, Nigeria; 1976 Maryland; 1975 West Berlin; 1974 Singapore; 1973 Nairobi; 1972 London; 1971 Kingston, Jamaica

If you can help out, my email is jbranch@ualberta.ca and you can contact me directly so that I can provide you with more information.

Book Review

BY MARCIA A. MARDIS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF INFORMATION, FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, CO-EDITOR, SCHOOL LIBRARIES WORLDWIDE

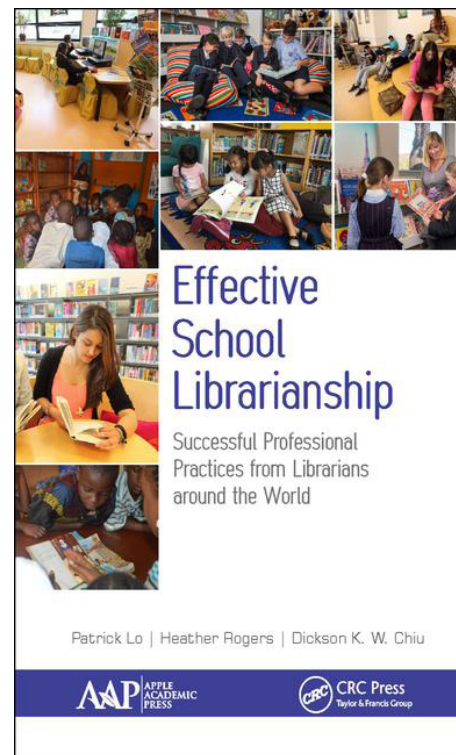
Effective School Librarianship, Volumes I and II: Successful Professional Practices From Librarians Around The World by Dr. Patrick Lo, Heather Rogers, and Dr. Dickson K.W. Chiu, is the first in a series of book that is designed to inspire school librarians by providing “interviews with individual school librarians discussing their practices, challenges, as well as a variety of topics related to their professional practices” (p.xxi). The audience for this volume is clearly practicing school librarians, but its multiple interview/case study approach will appeal to school librarianship education program faculty as well as researchers in the area.

The volume begins with a series of forewords from luminaries in the international school librarianship: In Dr. Helen Boelens’ piece, she emphasizes the need for school librarians to look outside of their immediate communities for instrumental practices and affirmations. Dr. Daniel Churchill points to school librarians’ importance in helping learners to build new literacies that reflect the embedded nature of technology in contemporary learning. Dr. Daisuke Okada describes the critical role of school librarians in helping learners make sense of the broader world around them. Dr. Fadekemi Oyewusi’s forward points to the importance of school librarians’ professional preparation in achieving strong, dynamic school libraries that reflect learners’ needs. These four leaders set the scene for a powerful series of stories from practitioners who impart strategies and experiences which reflect the themes of global connectedness, international community, and the impact of digitally mediated information and technology upon school librarianship’s practice.

The resounding value of this two volume work is in the rich stories it contains. The stories are geographically grouped: the volume in the series contains cases from North and South America; the second

volume contains cases Africa and Asia. I’ll just share a few highlights: In Chapter 1, “Using Zombie Comics to Motivate Students to Read,” American Janet Kanady discusses school librarianship from the perspective of agricultural education in a rural community. She details her transition from “copy girl” responsible for teachers’ duplication needs to a respected member of her school community. This transition centered on her ability to make connections with reluctant readers through comics, allowing these learners to indulge in world other than their daily routines. Janet Kanady stresses the importance of listening to learner voices and reflecting their desires in school library programming. Chapter 7, “A Resource Center in the Struggling Latin America,” contains an interview with Carlos Diaz, a school librarian in Venezuela. Mr. Diaz relates his accidental entry into school librarianship, but his joy in discovering his passion. He points to socioeconomic and cultural gaps that drive variations in school library access as a challenge, but points to the need to support key curricular goals such as strong writing and technology fluency as ways in which school libraries and school librarians will become increasingly important.

Volume II also contains compelling stories. In Chapter 1, “A School Library in a Place Where There Has Never Been One Before! Building a Reading Culture in DR Congo,” school library director Katherine Shaw addresses her school library’s role in educating future civic leaders. The approach she uses is very learner-directed, thus allowing them to focus on their passions and the skills necessary to pursue those interests. She further explains how she has built these competencies in an Internet-free environment. In Chapter 6, “Bringing the Concepts of US Public Librarianship to a School Library in Hong Kong,” Jun Niu, Tammy Ng, and Joli Moore discuss their approach to building a library culture in a school. Taking a cue from the busy programming schedule and offerings



of many US public libraries, these school librarians created a series of programs for their school library that offered something for every educator and learner. They also discuss the challenges to creating a relentless approach!

Every story in the two volumes is important, timely, and valuable. This is a unique and powerful work sure not only to benefit working school librarians in expanding their view of what is possible in their practice and providing ideas of how to maximize any situation, it is also a direct contribution to research and education in school librarianship because it captures in-depth scenarios of professional decision making, advocacy building, and learner support that have heretofore been uncollected. I highly recommend this outstanding work and commend the editors and contributors for sharing it to further strengthen the international school librarian community.