It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the second edition of the Management of Library Association Section’s online newsletter! I am the new Chair of the Section Committee for 2007-2009. I am looking forward to work with the new Standing Committee and with all the members of MLAS to promote library associations in every part of the world.

To be appointed Chair was for me an unexpected and wonderful experience. I would like to thank all the members of our Section for their support in my election and afterwards. I am confident that, with Keith Fiels as Secretary – Treasurer, Sue Hutley as Newsletter Editor and Arlene Cohen as MLAS List Coordinator, we all will be able to continue the task done by the former MLAS officers.

What makes the task of the MLAS Chair even more exciting and challenging is the co-opted membership in IFLA GB. MLAS Chair has the responsibility to speak for library associations and take up questions important to MLAS in the GB.

I would warmly thank all of you who attended our section meetings and our joint programme with CPDWL (Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning) Section at WLIC in Durban. Our programme was a great success with over 100 participants in the first part of the programme and about 50 in the workshop in the afternoon.

The success encouraged us to continue the cooperation with CPDWL Section in Quebec. We have also invited ALP (Action for Development through Libraries) Core Programme to our partner for the Quebec programme. ALP is promoting the development of the library associations and CPDWL is working for better leadership skills in the library and information field. Our theme in Quebec is “Leadership Skills and Advocacy for Libraries : Best Practices in Library Association Development”.

You all are most welcome to participate as observers the MLAS Standing Committee Midyear Meeting in Granada Spain on the 14th to 16th of February 2008. We inform you about the venue and preliminary agenda on Page 3 in this newsletter, and latest news will be on the MLAS e-List. In Granada we discuss of the Quebec programme, MLAS Strategic Plan 2008-2011, important issues on the Governing Board and many other topics.

From Durban on MLAS has under its wings, in addition to the New Professionals Discussion Group, also the Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group. We welcome the members of both groups to act as part of our section and to actively participate also in the programmes of MLAS.

For more information about the section or our upcoming meetings, please feel free to contact me at sinikka.sipila@fla.fi

Sinikka Sipilae
Secretary General
Finnish Library Association
Chair, IFLA MLAS Section
Hello again!! This MLAS Newsletter is packed with interesting and important information for all Library Association executives and staff. Please pass it on to colleagues in other Library Associations.

Why not print a copy and send to your Board of Directors or for the Association coffee table. All those within Library Associations are welcome at all MLAS meetings – so please mark the dates in No matter if you are new to Associations or have been around for awhile, this Section is a great way to network and share information and resources. Take a look around the Section website [S40] on the IFLA website or contact any of the committee members to ask questions or make suggestions or comments. Start getting ready for Quebec in Canada and consider presenting a paper on the excellent work going on in your Association.

We also like to hear your stories, so please send any snippets to Sue Hutley sue.hutley@alia.org.au for inclusion in the next newsletter. Newsletter submissions due by 1st March 2008.

And some final comments.

MLAS Newsletters

Profile : Malaysian Library Association

Name of Association :
Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM) / Librarians Association of Malaysia

Number of members (latest figures) :
1013

Executive Contact :
Maimunah Kadir, Honorary Secretary

Contact Email :
mai@mail.hukm.ukm.my

Association website address :
http://www.ppm55.org.my/

Postal Address :
Post Box 12545, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Association Goals :
To be leader of excellence in the development, promotion and support of Malaysian library and information professionals and institutions, in global knowledge industry. Recognising that libraries and information centres are strategic resources for national development, Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia or Librarians Association of Malaysia is committed to the creation of an information-rich knowledge-based civil society, through the promotion of information equity, lifelong and independent learning, and enhancement of library and information professionals.
Hello from the MLAS Secretary

It looks like some people can't get enough!

After serving for two years as MLAS Chair, I beat out several other candidates eager to become Secretary (a joke).

I'm really thrilled to be working with Sinikka Sipila, the new Chair of the Section, and Sue Hutley, the newsletter Editor. I'm also looking forward to devoting a bit more time to the Global Library Association Development (GLAD) program this coming year.

As the Executive Director of the American Library Association, I know how much difference a strong association can make in the quality of libraries, and in the support that libraries receive. Even though our individual situations vary so much, it's always inspiring to see how much we share in common, and how much we can learn from one another.

I think that the MLAS section is the most exciting place in IFLA. I've met some wonderful colleagues in other countries, and I'm exciting to be working with the many new Standing Committee members from countries that have never been involved in our work before. The programs in Durban were excellent and well-attended, and our upcoming meeting in Granada promises to be productive - and fun! We hope you can join us.

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director
American Library Association

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME
MLAS Mid-Term Meeting
14th - 16th February 2008
GRANADA, SPAIN

ALL WELCOME

WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY
Participants arrive.

THURSDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2008
MLAS Mid-Term Meeting
The meeting at 13.00 - 17.30 hours
Social programme - Dinner in the evening
hosted by the local association or the hosting city etc.

FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2008
Mid-term meeting continues 9.00 - 16.30 hours
Social programme - Dinner in the evening (paid by participants)

SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2008
Mid-term meeting continues at 9.00 - 13.00
Social programme - Some participants may stay
until Sunday due to flight connections or those
wanting to see more of the hosting city.

About the flights to Granada
Granada airport is a small airport. These airlines operate to Granada:
AEBAL http://www.aebal.es
AIR EUROPA http://www aireuropa.com
AIR NOSTRUM http://www.airnostrum.es
FUTURA http://www.futura-aer.com/
IBERIA http://www.iberia.es
MONARCH AIRLINES http://www.flymonarch.com
RYANAIR http://www.ryanair.com
SERVISAIR http://www.servisair.com
SPANAIR http://www.spanaire.es
VUELING AIRLINES http://www.vueling.com

Please note that Málaga airport is situated
135 km from Granada.
If any of you have further questions, please feel free to ask.

Sinikka Sipila
Chair of IFLA MLAS SC

Sinikka Sipila and Keith Fiels
Association Profile: Kazakhstan

Name of Association: Library Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (LARK)

Number of members (latest figures available): 100 institutional members, 800 individual members

Executive Contact Name: Roza Berdigalieva, Director General of the National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Executive Contact Email: Aliya Sarsembinova, Secretary of the LARK, MLAS SC member bark@nabr.kz

URL: http://www.bark.kz

The Library Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (LARK) was founded in 1997. The Association's mission is to promote common library interests, organization and development of perfect library service system in Kazakhstan and establish friendly relations among librarians and those who are involved in library services.

One of the main principles of LARK is to make the contemporary community admit the role of the libraries as important information centers, because it is impossible to create a democratic and intellectually developed society without such centers.

The Association's activities are focused on rising the image of the librarian as an occupation, introduction of new information technologies, development of creative partnership, and increasing and strengthening relations with international library world. The Association pays great attention to the problems of alternative formation of library book collections, book exchange and protection librarians' rights.

The Association constantly works on the matters of organizing continuous education. This work is aimed not only at mastering library information services but also at obtaining knowledge from other fields: psychology, sociology, economics, and management, which can be applied to the library practice. Members of the Association came to the conclusion that they have to create and cultivate libraries as information, educational and cultural centers in the communities.

The President is Roza Berdigalieva, PhD, honored worker of Kazakhstan. Her excellent efforts to develop libraries in Kazakhstan was awarded by the Kazakhstan Government in 2000.

August is Women's Month in South Africa, making it the perfect time and setting for the first session of the newly formed Women, Information & Libraries (WIL) Discussion Group:
http://www.ifla.org/VII/dg/wildg/index.htm under the wing of MLAS.

The session “Women, Information and Libraries in relation to the UN Millenium Development Goals” - attended by around 200 delegates - began with a brief history of women's involvement in IFLA, followed by a welcoming address by Keith Fiels, outgoing Chair of MLAS.

The first two papers addressed the third millennium goal - to promote gender equality and empower women - from two different perspectives: Wambui Wagacha focused on the situation in Kenya, and “Empowering teenage girls through technology” by Prof. Lesley Farmer - delivered via video - showed some US initiatives.

An interlude to the formal presentations then followed as African delegates joined in a Zulu song which translates as “praise the woman's name”, traditionally sung in women's groups. The atmosphere within the room was fantastic - a truly special “IFLA moment”.

Adetoun Oyelude from Nigeria followed with her paper addressing the sixth goal -- to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, specifically in this case the gender gap in information, education and library access to HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention in Nigeria. The final presentation was delivered by Fatima Darries from South Africa, who addressed the eighth goal - to develop a global partnership for development- using her own experience of a women’s leadership programme.

Fatima inspired delegates as she explained the concept of “lifting as you climb”; and challenged us all to aspire to leadership, to expand our networks beyond the LIS community, and to lift others as we climb.

Women, Information and Libraries Discussion Group

To receive news and contribute ideas to the programme for Quebec, join our mailing list WILL-L: http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/will-l
On being a grantee....

A report from the WLIC Durban:

It was my first time to attend the IFLA Conference and that was made possible by the Finland Library Association through a grant that I received from them. All the processes of application to participate in the Conference was done by them as well as the bookings for flights, accommodation and transportation. In regard to my assistance they were very efficient. They made it even possible to go out on tours and to attend all the activities which were organised throughout the conference. About the conference itself, I was taken up from the very day I find my feet in Durban International Airport. I was welcomed by smile of those who were assisting throughout the conference.

The opening address of Judge Justice Albie Sachs during his speech on how he had perceived libraries in his early years. The Justice Albie Sachs's address emphasised on how libraries and librarians have been perceived over the years in South Africa. The emphasis of his address was on an information society and on how South Africa as a country is so divided when it comes into what is regarded as an informed citizen.

During the conference I had an opportunity to share ideas on the importance of libraries with people from other countries and, on how we as a country could learn from them. His analysis on how information is disseminated in South Africa was of particular interest in his address. The story telling sessions of Gcina Mhlope and on how she dramatised the culture of reading in South Africa was very superb, that kept me awake and eager to attend the next session.

The most important sessions that I most enjoyed were those that were chaired by Claudia Lux on her vision as the current chair of IFLA. I happen to know about these sessions through Ms Sinikka Sipila who is the current chairperson of one of the Section Committees.

Networking amongst librarians was of paramount importance during the conference and I also assisted in that process of breaking the ice amongst the locals and our international guests during the discussions groups. I feel that had helped as there were many business cards that were exchanged in the processes of the seminars.

In some of the sessions that I attended, they were chaired by Claudia Lux and they were the eye openers on the importance of the work of IFLA on promoting the culture of book reading through libraries. In almost all the delegates that I came across during the conference, they were impressed with the marvelous work of the organising committee that planned for the conference deliberations and the entertainment sessions. Because of the grant from Finland Library Association, I was able to attend all the IFLA activities and also have a pocket money.

Zolili Mvunelo
zmvunelo@anc.org.za

The Global Library Association Development programme (GLAD)

Goals
The IFLA GLAD Twinning programme aims to develop current and potential leaders of library associations, as well as provide IFLA with a pool of qualified members to carry out its mission at all levels. The programme is focussed on meeting individual needs, identifying and applying professionally appropriate collaboration styles, and promoting professional growth. Twinning arrangements will be made between Mentors and Mentees. The mentor will serve as a resource to the mentee by providing guidance in professional development, coaching, and other non-financial support. Through mutual trust and respect, the mentor will be provide assistance and guidance to enhance the personal and professional growth of the mentee. This assistance will be confidential and non-evaluative. Mentoring can be either face-to-face, or via electronic means.

Mentors
Representatives of library associations with particular expertise in various aspects of association management may offer their services as Mentors. Potential mentors should submit an application through the GLAD website.

Mentees
Representatives of library associations who would like assistance with developing particular elements of their association work may request to become Mentees. Potential mentees should submit an application through the GLAD website.

http://www.ifla.org/VII/s40/
https://cs.ala.org/iro/GLAD/search.cfm
Session Theme: LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND ADVOCACY FOR LIBRARIES : BEST PRACTICES IN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

This programme is a collaboration between the Management of Library Association Section (MLAS), the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CPDWL) and the Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP).

GLOBAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – GLAD was developed by the Management of Library Association Section (MLAS) and received the approval of IFLA Governing Board in 2006 as a strategic initiative.

The objective of the GLAD Programme is to help to develop a set of skills relating to Library Association Management in order to strengthen the pool of qualified personnel who will potentially manage Library Associations at the local level. This in turn will help to strengthen the pool of potential candidates from which IFLA can draw for leadership positions within the Association.

MLAS, CPDWL and ALP share the mission of the GLAD Programme : to strengthen the management of library associations in order to make associations stronger players in the development of libraries and thus in the development of societies in all parts of the world. This to be achieved through continuous training and development of information professionals.

The programme is envisioned as having presentations in the morning with invited speakers allocated 20 minutes presentation time after which there will be 10 minutes of discussion. The afternoon session will take the form of interactive round-table sessions in the afternoon devoted to discussion of problems and solutions. LIS educators and practitioners are invited to submit proposals for presentations and roundtable sessions that provide practical information which will enhance the ability of participants to become successful Library Association Managers and Leaders. We plan to present best practices from each of the three IFLA regions of Africa, Latin America-Caribbean and Asia–Oceania where ALP has supported successful projects or actions.

Proposals may focus on, but are not limited to:

* best practices of working in the political arena and in advocacy
* best practices of management of library associations
* strategic planning
* financial management and reporting
* communication and presentation skills
* business case writing
* mentoring
* general leadership skills targeted at all levels – beginners, intermediate, advanced, and executive rank

If interested, please send a one-page abstract on one of the topics mentioned above or any other topic which is in keeping with the objective of the workshop. Include a short biography on the author and a digital photo if available.

Your abstract must be in English and submitted by 15 December 2007 to:
Sinikka Sipila, MLAS Section
E-mail: sinikka.sipila@fla.fi and
Sylvia Piggott, CPDWL Section
E-mail: spiggott@sympatico.ca

The abstracts will be reviewed by members of MLAS and CPDWL standing committees and by the ALP Office and the Regional Offices. Successful applicants will be notified by end of February 2008. Full papers will be due on 1 May 2008 to allow time for review of papers and translations. Papers should not be longer than 20 pages. A maximum of 20 minutes will be allowed for a presentation or summary of the paper during the Sections program in the Conference.
"Free access and digital divide - challenges for science and society in the digital age" : Second meeting on 'Libraries on the Agenda'

On the occasion of the IFLA presidency of Claudia Lux, the German IFLA National Committee, in cooperation with different partners, is organising an international meeting on the topic “Free access to information”.

Second International Meeting
21-22 February 2008 - Berlin

http://www.ifla.org/III/PresidentsProgram.htm

New Professionals ....

The MLAS section also supports the New Professionals Discussion List - more details at

http://www.ifla.org/VII/dg/npdg/index.htm

A discussion list for new professionals.
or email Loida.Garcia-Febo@queenslibrary.org

How do I join the MLAS e-list ?? ...

Just contact Arlene Cohen
directly at arlenegcohen@gmail.com
and request to be joined up to the MLAS e-list.

Send your message to ifla-mlas@lists.sla.org - where members of the list can send messages.