Dear Colleague,

We take pleasure in inviting you to participate in the 27th International Conference of the IASL, which will take place at Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel, on July 5 - 9, 1998.

The program will include the Second Annual International Forum on Research in School Librarianship, as well as presentations, poster sessions and discussions related to the following themes:

- **Information literacy and information skills.**
- **Reading as a basis for using information technology efficiently.**
- **Future changes in educational systems.**
- **Minority language reading in the world of information technology.**
- **Crisis in teaching reading as a skill.**
- **Reading encouragement.**
- **Children's literature: new formats (multimedia etc.).**
- **Children's literature: reflections of society, culture and ethnic groups.**
- **Role of libraries and technology in developing and improving plans of action for learning.**
- **Role of libraries and technology in developing and improving coursework.**
- **The digital library in the school library media center.**
- **Social information in the school library media center.**
- **Censorship and other ethical issues in the school library media center.**
- **Professional training of media specialists, school librarians and teacher-librarians.**
- **Professional growth and development.**

The conference will be held mainly at the beautiful campus of Bar-Ilan University, near Tel-Aviv. As an added attraction before, during and after the conference there will be opportunities to enjoy the unique archaeological findings, landscapes and cultural treasures of the Holy Land. Library visits and a unique and stimulating Sabbath-hospitality program will be offered to participants and accompanying persons, so that everyone should enjoy an unforgettable experience.

**Call for Papers:**

Participants wishing to present a paper are invited to submit an extended abstract for oral or poster presentation. The Program Committee will review the abstracts, and participants will be notified.

Selection of papers will be based upon extended abstracts, which should include at least 4 pages (approx. 1000 words). The abstracts, accompanied by a separate title page should be sent to:

**IASL CONFERENCE - 1998**
Attn.: Ms. Amalia Brand
Depl. of Information and Library Studies, Bar-Ilan University
Israel 52900 Fax: 972-3-5347601

A limited number of abstracts will be selected for oral presentation, and a selection will be published in the Conference Proceedings book which will be distributed to all participants at the registration desk.


We are looking forward to seeing you all here in July 1998.

**Dr. Snunit Shoham - Dr. Moshe Yitzhaki**
Co-chairpersons
Local Organizing Committee

**Local Organizing Committee**

- **Dr. Snunit Shoham, Co-chairperson**
  Department of Information & Library Studies, Bar-Ilan U., Ramat-Gan
- **Dr. Moshe Yitzhaki, Co-chairperson**
  Department of Information & Library Studies, Bar-Ilan U., Ramat-Gan
- **Dr. Shira Baruchson-Arbiel**
  Head - Department of Information & Library Studies, Bar-Ilan U., Ramat-Gan
- **Mr. Victor Ben-Naim**
  Head - Division of Libraries, Ministry of Education Culture, Jerusalem
- **Ms. Miriam Chaim**
  Supervisor of High School Libraries - Ministry of Education Culture, Jerusalem
- **Ms. Tzipi Karelitz**
  Supervisor of Elementary School Libraries - Ministry of Education Culture, Jerusalem
- **Dr. Irith Getz**
  Director - Library Studies, Beit Berl College, Kfar-Sava
- **Ms. Miriam Ratzabi**
  Deputy Head - Division of Libraries, Ministry of Education Culture, Jerusalem
- **Mr. Hayim Vai**
  Director - Department for Teachers Continuing Education Bar-Ilan University U., Ramat-Gan
- **Ms. Amalia Brand**
  Coordinator - Department of Information & Library Studies, Bar-Ilan U., Ramat-Gan

**International Academic Program Committee**

- **Dr. Moshe Yitzhaki - Co-chairperson**, Bar-Ilan U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Snunit Shoham - Co-chairperson**, Bar-Ilan U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Hanna Adoni**, Hebrew U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Miri Baruch**, Leviskii College (Israel)
- **Dr. Shira Baruchson-Arbiel**, Head of Dept., Bar-Ilan U. (Israel)
- **Mr. Gershon Bergson**, Ministry of Education and Culture (Israel)
- **Prof. Adir Cohen**, Haifa U. (Haifa)
- **Prof. Sara Fine**, U. of Pittsburgh (USA)
- **Prof. Shirley G. Fitzgibbons**, U. of Indiana (USA)
- **Dr. Irith Getz**, Beit Berl College (Israel)
- **Prof. Isabel Gomez**, Tecnologico Metropolitana (Chile)
- **Prof. David Gordon**, Ben-Gurion U. (Israel)
- **Prof. Sigrun Klar Hanesdottir**, U. of Reykjavik (Iceland)
- **Prof. Ken Hancox**, Vancouver BC (Canada)
- **Prof. Sheila S. Inter**, Simmons College (USA)
- **Dr. Rebecca Knuth**, U. of Hawaii (Hawaii)
- **Dr. Monica Nilsson**, The Bering School (Sweden)
- **Prof. Dianne Oberg**, U. of Alberta (Canada)
- **Dr. Sandra Olsen**, U. of S. Africa (S. Africa)
- **Prof. Bluma Peritz**, The Hebrew U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Carol Pfeffer**, (Israel)
- **Dr. Nuria Lorenzo Ramirez**, U. of Barcelona (Spain)
- **Dr. Iren Sever**, Haifa U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Dina Shemesh**, Bar-Ilan U. (Israel)
- **Dr. Anne Taylor**, The Queen's University of Belfast (N. Ireland)
- **Dr. Ross Tod**, U. of Technology, Sidney (Australia)
- **Prof. Aryeh Wohl**, Educational Television Center (Israel)
- **Prof. Blanche E. Woods**, U. of Pittsburgh (USA)