

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DO YOU READ ME?

The International Association of School Librarianship 29th Annual Conference in Malmö, Sweden

SEATTLE, August 17, 2000—

Information Literacy – Key to the Future was the theme of the conference of International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) held August 6-10, 2000 in Malmö, Sweden. Over 325 delegates from more than 30 countries attended the conference, which featured workshops, seminars, school tours, receptions, exhibits, and the *Fourth International Forum on Research in School Librarianship*. Delegates attended from around the world. Countries represented at the conference included Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greenland, Iceland, India, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Turkey, the UK, the USA, and Zimbabwe. Helle Barrett (Sweden) coordinated this year's conference.

During the Opening General Session, Hans Persson, Director of Education for the city of Malmö, stated "You can't find anywhere a school with excellent quality and very good results without having a school librarian with good standard and highly educated and professional staff." Angeta Eriksson, City Commissioner for Culture and Education, followed with "A complete society must absolutely have libraries. They must be supported by government and local communities, so they can make progress and always be in the frontline of information". Anna-Lisa Fäldt, from the Swedish National Council for Cultural Affairs stated that "School libraries are strategic in the development of the Swedish school system and that school librarians are strategic persons in this development". Malin Koldenius, Chair of the Scholl Library Committee of the Swedish Library Association concluded with "Do we read them? Are we quite sure of what they are saying? Are we listening to them – to their wishes, abilities, ideas and needs for knowledge? Do we understand? In my daily work....I will try to think of this – the other's point of view". The Opening General Session also included the Brass Sextet of Limhamn and the annual IASL flag ceremony.

Sessions in the *Fourth International Forum on Research in School Librarianship* included presentations by Dianne Oberg (Canada) "Internet Use in Schools in Alberta, Canada: Implications for School Librarians", Lucília Salgado (Portugal) "Literacy and Learning of Reading and Writing", James Herring (Scotland, UK) "Theory Into Practice: Using the PLUS Model to Teach Information Skills and Support the Curriculum in a Secondary School", Diljit Singh (Malaysia) "Competencies for Teacher-Librarian: The Malaysian Perspective", Ken Haycock (Canada) "Internet Filtering in School Libraries", and Eleanor Howe (USA) "The Relationship Between Listening Comprehension and Reading Comprehension: Implications for the School Librarian". Linda Langford presented the work of Ross Todd (both Australia) "Knowledge Management: Key to Partnerships, Learning Outcomes and Resourcing a Learning Community".