New opportunities and relationships are open to us every day, and 2017 is just zipping by!

My previous "each one, reach one" challenges asked you to reach out to a colleague on another campus to build connections and also to a colleague in appreciation for information or inspiration they shared.

This time, I ask that "each one, reach one" person you don't usually collaborate with at your school or university as you tell the library story in a new way.

Make a list of the resources and activities in your school library that go beyond storytime and book checkouts – and tell people at school about how those things can meet their needs.

Teacher-librarians could show number-related picture books to the mathematics teachers or let science teachers know about young adult fiction titles with characters who love biology and chemistry. Highlight recent novels that retell classic tales for your literature teachers or introduce new formats that visually engage students while they read about history.

Professors of library science students could discuss TL-teacher collaboration projects with professors of teacher preparation courses so that “new teachers” can be exposed to this successful practice which might not be detailed in their textbooks. Request time to talk to those preparing to become principals or headmasters, so that they know what today’s school libraries are and all the ways that TLS help students succeed through literacy, ethical use of information, knowledge creation, and more.

Let us continue to “each one, reach one” as we forge connections, appreciation, and interdisciplinary relationships, keeping IASL in the conversation as our global reach helps us all learn more.

Thankfully, we aren’t alone in our profession! I’m looking forward to seeing you in August at IASL2017 in Long Beach USA as we explore “Learning Without Borders” https://iaslconf2017.org/registration-2/.

And please send me your stories about how you have “reached one” person to make connections, show appreciation, and tell the school library story across borders, too!

Yours in school librarianship,
Katy Manck
President, International Association of School Librarianship
Katy.Manck@gmail.com

Support-A-Member (SAM) applications will now be accepted throughout the year! The SAM program is designed to make it possible for school librarians in developing countries to belong to IASL. Learn more about how to apply for the award online iasl-online.org/awards

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International School Library Month, 2017
BY MARIE O’BRIEN

It is early days yet but the ISLM team is gearing up for ISLM 2017!

ISLM (International School Library Month) is an annual celebration of school libraries, an opportunity for those in charge of school libraries around the world to choose a day, week, or the entire month in October to celebrate the importance of school libraries and the role they play in schools. Educators and students around the world come together to work on ISLM facilitated projects or on activities of their own choosing.

The ISLM Committee is a small, enthusiastic online group who facilitate a number of projects for ISLM month. Most of our work involves the sharing of ideas, the coordination of the international projects we organise, and advocacy of ISLM. We always welcome new members so if you would like to be a part of our group please contact any Committee member:
- Breege O’Brien (Ireland): rahardagh@gmail.com; Hosea Tokwe (Zimbabwe): tokwehosea@gmail.com; Sunita Malekar (India): sunita.malekar@mbis.org; and Linda Thiebaud (USA): linda_thiebaud@icloud.com

Information about ISLM is available on the IASL web page at: http://www.iasl-online.org/advocacy/ism/index.html and information for 2017 will be updated as time goes on.

And finally for now, Marie O’Brien (Australia) has retired from the ISLM Committee after 10 years service including several years as Committee Chair. Her commitment, enthusiasm for the cause, leadership, and online friendship contribution will be missed. We would like to thank Marie for everything over the years and we wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Asia and Oceania Section-Midterm meeting held at Jawaharlal Nehru University
BY MADHU BHARGAVA

The main objectives of the Section are to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and the library profession within the five sub-regions of Asia and Oceania: West Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The Section works in cooperation with the other Regional Sections and all of IFLA’s Sections and Core Activities, especially the Action for Development through Libraries Programme.

IFLA RSCAO midterm meeting was held at JNU, New Delhi on 20-21 Feb., 2017. Members represented various types of Libraries of Australia, Japan, Singapore, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, India, Singapore, Malaysia and Philippines. I represented IASL and school Libraries of the region. Besides reports from Asia Oceania, strategic action plan 2016-18 was discussed which included discussions on standards and guidelines, networking and communication, use of face book page and twitter created. I was given special time to present what school librarians are doing in the region. It has been urged that public libraries join hands with school libraries to promote literacy. Singapore public libraries are doing good work in this direction. Annual IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Aug. 2017 is hosted by Poland.
GiggleIT presents opportunities for schools
BY ELEANOR CHEN

It wasn’t until the 2016 IASL Conference in Tokyo that I learned about the fun of GiggleIT Project, the international online writing program for students to share their stories globally and to see the world through the window of words. I brought this great news back to Y.K. Pao Primary School (Shanghai, China), and our Principal was keen on the idea to promote internationalism in our School by reading stories written by children from different parts of the world.

Teachers, on the other hand, had different thoughts and were less excited in linking GiggleIT with their planned curriculum, even after the reassurance that GiggleIT can easily “piggyback ride” on any existing lesson topics. It was a hard battle until things took a turn for the better when our ICT Coach started an eBook Creator program and I immediately brought GiggleIT to life!

We made a huge announcement to the School and children were proud to know their lovely works will be published as eBooks and be read in the Library. The ICT Coach, aka the eBook Wizard, scanned every story, comic, poem, or personal journal, and etc., before it was uploaded to our LibGuides (http://libguides.ykpaoschool.cn/ebooks). Students and Teachers were thrilled to see their own work go digital and were amazed to learn they were about to go global via GiggleIT. We invited students and staff to vote for 3 Pao GiggleCritters through a survey on the iPad in our Library. I was delighted to see some teachers brought their classes to cast their votes to support it.

Students volunteered to write a brief introduction about China, Shanghai, and our School, to be displayed on our GiggleIT page. It is planned to print the GiggleCritter stickers as a reward to our little eBook authors who have their work published online. Students are encouraged to create as many eBooks as possible and to build up a whole collection of their own GiggleCritters.

The GiggleIT journey feels like how you grow a tree. Everything started small from one subject to a whole Department before more and more teachers realized any outstanding student work can be added to our eCollection and it won’t even cost them extra time or energy.

GiggleIT Update from the GiggleIT team

Every land and culture includes stories and legends about “tricksters” who try to take advantage of everyday folks through their cleverness.

The 2017 GiggleIT Project for global student writing through school libraries encourages students to read widely as they experience Trickster Tales http://www.iasl-online.org/GiggleIT-2017-Trickster-Tales from around the world and together create a Wonderful Word Cloud http://www.iasl-online.org/GiggleIT-2017-Trickster-Tales of the phrases and words that these varied stories have in common.

After their reading, students can also write their own Trickster Limericks http://www.iasl-online.org/GiggleIT-2017-Trickster-Tales to retell a trickster tale in a rhythmic and poetic way, like this one based on the Southern USA story where Brer (brother) Fox tries to trick Brer Rabbit:

There was an old fox named Reynard
Whose life seemed so terribly hard,
Brer Rabbit from the south
Would not jump in his mouth,
Which upset that old fox named Reynard!

Each GiggleIT Project spotlight page includes many resources to assist teacher-librarians as they coach young writers in the school library as a creative laboratory space, and writing with a buddy or in small groups is encouraged.

Of course, your school’s page on the GiggleIT Project section of IASL website, lesson plans, and selection of GiggleCritter mascots are always free of cost!

For more information, please contact the GiggleIT team at IASL.Giggle.IT@gmail.com.
Come to the Beach for the 2017 IASL Conference!
Yes, the 2017 IASL conference is coming sooner than you think: less than three months away. Even though the Early Bird savings are in the past, you can still register for this unique professional development and networking event. Go to http://iaslconf2017.org for details.

Thanks go to the many people who submitted research and best practice program proposals. We have a full roster of exciting sessions lined up, featuring folks from around the world: Africa, Asia, Canada, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, Oceania, and the U.S. Several talks describe the status of school libraries and professional preparation in different countries.

Sample research topics include: leadership and collaboration, building reading and literacy cultures, digital and media issues, incorporating cultural heritage, bibliotherapy, students’ experiences, and other analyses.

Sample best practice topics include: information behaviors, gamification, staffing, collection development, GiggleIt, storytelling, multicultural literature, makerspaces and other learning environment strategies. Children’s and youth authors will be featured as well.

Keynote and spotlight speakers are special entries: Disney librarian and Disney author, the Center for Media Literacy, Open Educational Resource leader, augmented reality and artificial intelligence, and reading strategies.

Friday, before the conference begins, features $50 workshops: School Library Guidelines Implementation (AM), and Computational Thinking through School Libraries (PM). The California School Library Association will also be offering a day-long set of professional development workshops (ticketed in June).

Exhibitors and a pop-up “bookstore” will also give attendees a chance to examine library products first hand, and talk with vendors in a central convenient way.

AND we’re providing a new and

IASL Conference book donations and auction

BOOKS FIRST!
Please consider bringing an unused children’s book that reflects your country or culture. The preferred languages are English and Spanish, but a substantial number of schools have students who use a different language – and students like to see examples of world languages. The books will be on display during the conference, and will be given to a needy school library in Southern California (yes, there are schools with very poor library collections and little financial support).

IASL GRAND AUCTION, SILENT AUCTION AND LUCKY CHOICE
What is it?
Delegates are encouraged to bring an item from their own country which will be auctioned during the Conference and its Gala Dinner. Think about bringing something very unique, an item that someone would really like to take back home in their suitcase. Consider weight, shape, travel customs and quarantine information. It would be a shame to bring something that is not acceptable due to customs regulations and/or for taking home to your country.

See: https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/3619/kw/bring-ing%20food%20to%20us

When does it happen? Throughout the conference.
After completing your registration, please bring your items to the Auction Desk located near registration – or in the SE corner of the business building. Complete a Bidding Sheet (with a description and country of origin of the item) and give the item and the description to the people on duty (or leave them on the table if it is unattended). The items registered at this desk are sorted and directed to three categories of displays:

1. Lucky Choice: for a donation of $1-$5 these items are available on a first come-first choice basis. No items will be saved for later and you take them as soon as you pay. These items are available for choice all day and new items will be added every day, as needed.

2. Silent Auction: Bidding begins each day at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. Bids are recorded on the Bidding Sheets and considered ‘sold’ at 2:30. Minimum bid is $3. New items are set out each day. The names of lucky winners and their bids are displayed on the message board near registration, and can be paid for, and collected daily, after 3:00 p.m.

3. Grand Auction: Exceptional, amazing and awesome items will be directed to the Grand Auction display which will be auctioned at the Gala Conference Dinner on Sunday at 7:30 pm. Opening bids will be asked to start at a minimum of US$20. The items will be on display

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expanded experience: webinars!
Experts from far away will be sharing their insights about special education collections, services for LGBTQ populations, articulation with higher education, visual literacy, and more. Attendees at the conference will experience these speakers, and can ask questions of them directly. For those folks who cannot travel to the conference, we will be bringing these webinars to them: real-time access and chat (and later archived access) to the nine webinars: only $50 total for IASL members. Registration will begin June 1; we can handle up to 190 registrations, so mark your calendars, and register quickly.

Take advantage of Long Beach.
On the 8th two free tours will be provided: to school libraries and to public libraries. There are also paid tours being planned to the Huntington Library and Pasadena, and to Rancho Los Alamitos. You and your travel mates can also see the sites in Long Beach, in most cases using local buses, which come on campus. You can get discounts to see the Queen Mary and the Aquarium. And, of course, there’s Hollywood, Disneyland, many museums and other attractions within an hour of campus.

All this and networking and socializing with school librarians and educators from around the world. We’ll be providing translators for Spanish, and probably Arabic, Chinese and Japanese. How can you NOT attend?

Money raised supports developing countries

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throughout the conference at the auction tables.

Where does the donated money go?

All money donated through the Auctions is divided among several IASL Award funds including the Books For Children Award, the Support-A-Member program, the Takeshi Murofushi Research Award, the Margot Nilson Memorial Award in Literature for Young People, and the L. Anne Clyde Memorial Research Award. Discover more about these and other IASL Award Funds at http://iasl-online.org/awards/index.html.
The desire to built relationships and rekindle identity with socially excluded communities, and seeking opportunities to collaborate and give added value to remote rural schools is always above everything else fulfilling and rewarding to one’s life. This is what Dr Alfred Chidembo is striving to achieve by embarking on this grand project to ensure that six schools in the Mavhurazi community where he started his primary schooling do have well established School Libraries. The Mavhurazi Primary School Library Pilot Project is the brainchild of Dr Alfred Chidembo, founder of the Aussie Books for Zimbabwe. For years he had struggled to find a partner, a person with the same passion for children and books who would advise him to advocate for the establishment of School Libraries in his rural home area the Mavhurazi community, Mudzi district. It was late in December 2016 that he googled and found my name, Hosea Tokwe, it was then that he finally made the bold decision to communicate with me via electronic mail. He gave me the portfolio of Advocacy Officer, and my first task was to travel to Mavhurazi to convince and encourage School Heads to come up with School Libraries.

What follows is a report that will cover arrangements and efforts made to ensure that the first meeting was held to appraise the relevant stakeholders about the importance of this Primary School Library Pilot Project and the expected significance it will bring to the Mavhurazi community.

Early on the 18 of March we left Harare around ten o’clock in the morning. Mavhurazi School, I had been told is a poor rural school about two hundred and forty kilometers from Harare. So we took off following the highway that stretches towards the Nyamapanda Border Post linking Zimbabwe and Mozambique. It took us three hours to arrive at the School, the difficult part of the journey being the grueling twenty kilometers dust road along a difficult terrain. Despite having been at the school in the early hours of the morning the community comprising village councilor, headmen from several villages, health workers and teachers from other local schools gave us a sound welcome and a total of thirty-five were in attendance.

My talk was on the value of having School Library in the community. The School Library being the heartbeat of the School. My remarks were to encourage the gathered community and bring to them a picture of how it would mean to have books to transform their lives and those of their children. Having been alerted that the Mavhurazi community and its clusters had not been performing good results, I emphasized on the fact that good book provision enables school children to attain good reading and writing skills and improve on their literacy levels. They lighted up when I mentioned that books open children’s minds to the world around them and ensure their success through lifelong education and adding that through books there would be an improvement in the pass rate not only at Mavhurazi Primary School but at other Schools falling under the same cluster.

What impressed me was the zeal and enthusiasm displayed by the Schools that were present. Each School managed to grasp the idea of coming up with a School Library Committee. Some Schools responded to this idea and promised that they would set up this Committee to prepare for the establishment of a Library. There were six Schools in attendance namely, Mavhurazi Primary School, Makaha Primary School, Katsande Primary School, Rwamba Primary School, Nyarutepo Primary School, and Nyakuchena Primary School.

Each of these Schools received a School Library Manual courtesy of Elizabeth Greef, an Australian Librarian who has expressed interest and support to this Project. Eight Secondary Schools were also handed a copy each.
of the manual for use in their Schools.

I learned that there is a great commitment among the stakeholders. The fact that headmen from different communities made efforts to attend and had to wait for three long hours before my arrival is enough testimony that there is great need for school library development in this area. Such commitment also showed that they are ready to harness their energy to construction of School Libraries in their respective areas. Also they are ready to own the future School Library Development by ensuring that they contribute towards material development of the infrastructure. The community is also geared towards the educational achievement of their children as well as developing their literacy levels. There is good rapport between the District Office, School Heads and the local community thus any initiative to establish School Libraries can be undertaken if collaborative efforts are made.

There is thus strong need for training in running the School Library, since many schools are receiving a large consignment of books for the very first time. Hence there is need for accountability and to appreciate the efforts made to bring books that will make a whole world of difference to the teaching and learning process. This can be supported by conducting a Workshop bringing a total of fifteen people. This kind of training will involve among other things educating future Teacher Librarians in the following areas:

* Accessioning books, that is recording all books and putting school ownership stamp
* Organizing the set-up of the library, that is book arrangement, be it by level that is infant, junior and senior level for easy access and use:
* Colour coding or arrangement by subject
* The physical processing of the book, that is date due slip and loaning out procedure.
* Art of storytelling and introducing books to children, that is identifying Teachers with love for books and children
* Library rules and regulations, that is, timetable for opening and closing and the type of behavior expected in a library

This groundbreaking meeting left a lot of impressions on me. There is willingness from the Mavhurazi community to the idea of School Libraries. Despite the fact that Mavhurazi is far off from the main road there is great potential for greater development not only at school level but community level as well. I would also greatly appreciate if some fundraising is made towards sustaining the initial establishment of classroom libraries for the six schools that will receive books from Aussie Books for Zimbabwe, so that they get seed money to construct bookshelves for accommodating books and purchase other necessary library stationery for recording all new books. Continuous monitoring and assessment of the efforts made by these six schools will ensure effective school library development in Mavhurazi community.

It was a lighter moment at the very end as I handed over two box parcels an assortment of presents from Dr Helen Boelens and other well wishers in the Netherlands, ballpoints, crayons, balloons, children’s novels, ECD materials and exercise books and the community couldn’t resist getting a photograph with them.

To this day I still remember the spacious lunch of well cooked goat meat and African thick porridge that I truly enjoyed before my departure.

“The community is also geared towards the educational achievement of their children as well as developing their literacy levels. ... Any initiative to establish School Libraries can be undertaken if collaborative efforts are made.”
School librarians in Hungary elect new board

BY VERONIKA KÁMÁN

A newly elected Board with renewed power and enthusiasm has started its work at the School Librarians’ Association in Hungary. Spring has given us many new ideas and events, meanwhile we also prepare ourselves to take part at the IFLA WLIC Congress in Wroclaw.

126 teacher librarians from all over the country took part at our Spring Conference in Budapest in the Károlyi Mihály Spanish Bilingual High School with the title “What’s the plus? What can a school library do to improve the quality of public education?”. The aim of this encounter was to reflect on the problems and possibilities of the public education in Hungary, and what kind of solutions can be offered by and through our school libraries. IFLA School Library Guidelines was like a compass for us to find new directions and widen our horizons in our improvement.

The Guidelines was the focal point of our interactive book launch program held at the Librarian Club of the 24th International Book Festival of Budapest as well. We were happy to have among us Péter Murányi, lector of the Hungarian translation and Klára Szakmári, former president of the association. Participants had the opportunity to deepen the content of the Guidelines and get new inspirations.

During the school year – with the finals in April – the national competition of library usage and practice was held. This competition is named after a famous Hungarian author and literary historian, Péter Bod. Students can take part from the age of 9-10 to 16, exercises – both theoretical and practical ones – are fitted to the characteristics of the age-group. The general topic of the event is each year different. In 2016-2017 the title of the competition was “200 years”: the year of 1817 in our history, art, science, literature – also as the anniversary of our poet, János Arany.

In terms of future: in the upcoming months we are about to initiate...
Hungary analyzes reality of best practices

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a Sister Libraries Program in our country in order to have a platform for school libraries to support each other, to exchange experiences, ideas and resources, to foster the innovation and marketing of school libraries. We’ll offer some basic ideas for the collaboration such as exchanging reading lists, to create a logo for the sister libraries, to exchange and share best practices, to organize programs in common (as reading clubs, poetry day, writer-reader meetings) etc.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the School Library Guidelines, we are about to announce contest for working groups of teacher librarians. The main prize will be a regional conference held at the centre of the winning working group. The aim is analyse and present the Hungarian reality of school libraries and their librarians, and also to collect best practices from all over the country.

We’re looking forward to the upcoming months, and hope to have experiences of these programs which will inspire our international community as well.

HONOR A FEATURED LIBRARIAN

Do you know any school librarian who tirelessly advocates for his or her students? A librarian who deserves to be recognized for his or her outstanding efforts?

IASL’s social media has an honor called “Featured Librarian” which will run quarterly. A member of the Association will be highlighted on the Association’s Facebook and Twitter.

Here are the general guidelines for nomination:

- Members can only nominate other members, not self. Non-IASL members are not eligible.
- Candidates’ must have a valid e-mail and mailing address
- Those who wish to nominate a librarian must send an email to the information coordinator, Laura Davis, for review
- Only the information coordinator will contact the nominees

Once a “Featured Librarian” has been chosen, Laura will send a short questionnaire to the nominee. He or she will receive a certificate and his or her photo and story will be shared across IASL’s social media platforms. There is no monetary gift involved in this honor.

We want to see the faces of IASL members, learn more about their libraries and projects, and be inspired by their actions. This is in no way a competition, but an opportunity to recognize those who do so much for others.

Nominations for the next “Featured Librarian” can now be sent to the information coordinator. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Laura at laura@penman-winton.com.
FROM REGION 1 - AFRICA

Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Program

BY JERRY MATHEMA

Last year I was offered a Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development fellowship that saw me spend four weeks in the United States learning about new technologies in the Library and Information Science department and also meeting industry leaders. I was one of the five participants chosen from across the globe for the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) / International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) fellows for 2017. I am also the second Zimbabwean to take part in this program after Masimba Muziranga.

I joined Patience Ngizi-Hara from Zambia, Eric Nelson Haumba of Uganda, Sharisse Rae Lim of the Philippines and Nguyen Van Kep if Vietnam at OCLC Headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA and we were booked at Sonesta ES Suites. The dates for the fellowship program where Friday 17 March through Thursday 13 April 2017.

I arrived in the US on Saturday 18 March 2017, flew into John Glenn International Airport (CMH) Columbus, Ohio from Hartsfield Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia. I missed the St Patricks Day festivities but when I arrived there I saw considerable traffic and many people. Restaurants and pubs were still filled with many celebrants!

IFLA is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession. Founded in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1927 at an International Conference, IFLA now has 1 500 members in approximately 150 countries around the world while OCLC is a non-profit global library co-operative providing shared technology services, original research and community programs so that libraries can better fuel learning, research and innovation.

The IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Programme under the able leadership of Ms Nancy Lensenmayer provided advanced continuing education and exposure to a broad range of issues in information technologies, library operations and global co-operative librarianship. The selection of the five Fellows for the class of 2017 brought to 85 the number of librarians and information science professionals from 38 developing countries to have taken part in the programme since it began 15 years ago.

Our Supervisor Ms Nancy Lensenmayer is OCLC Program Director, Education and Professional Development. A librarian and educator, she has worked in public, academic and corporate libraries, and taught library science at the graduate and undergraduate levels. She manages the IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program, mentoring early career librarians from developing countries, and is on the faculty of the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science.

The Fellows participated in discussions with library and information science leaders, had library visits and professional development activities during the four-week programme. The Fellows had a chance to observe OCLC’s governance structure in action, gaining insight into issues affecting the global library co-operative by attending the Global Council Meeting.

Some of the industry leaders we were scheduled to meet were the first female and African American Library of Congress librarian, Carla Hayden, Mortenson Center’s Distinguished Professor and Librarian Sarah Chu, President of the OCLC Global Council, Peter Sidorko and OCLC President and Chief Executive Officer, Skip Pritchard.

Some of the institutions and sites visits on the itinerary of the fellows included Ohio State House, Ohio State University Library (Thompson, Research Commons and Depository), Westerville Public Library in Ohio, Otterbein University in Ohio, Columbus Art Museum, Library of Congress & Smithsonian’s Archives, Museum of African Art, Native Indian Museum, in Washington DC, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, The Graduate School of Library & Information Science’s Mortenson Center at Urbana Champaign, Illinois and the Indianapolis Public Library in Indiana.

The Fellows’ international and domestic transportation, lodging, meals, medical insurance and other daily expenses were paid for by this Fellowship. Airline reservations were made through OCLC’s Travel Agency World travel, Inc. The program hotels that offered five star accommodation to the entourage were Capitol Hill in Washington DC, Hawthorne Suites in Urbana Champaign, Illinois, Fairfield & Suites Downtown/Magnificent Mile in Chicago Illinois.

On Thursday 13 April 2017 I departed the US for return to my native Zimbabwe from O’Hare International Airport, Chicago Illinois via John F Kennedy International in New York en route to Johannesburg and then Bulawayo.
In 2016, with sponsorship from the SALI Trust and the support of hardworking volunteers, and as part of its Library Support work, The Bookery had the privilege to help co-ordinate the first Phendulani Quiz (based on the International Kids Lit Quiz) held in the Western Cape, South Africa. Four of our partner schools and two other schools participated in the quiz hosted in October.

Our involvement with the Phendulani Quiz formed part of our Library Support work. With school libraries not appropriately prioritised by government (at least 85% of public schools do not have functional libraries in South Africa), libraries that do exist often do not have adequate support to become and remain functional.

After we have provided 4000 quality and relevant books to the school, our aim is then to offer support, focusing on empowering the young librarians – or ‘library assistants’ – with the skills to manage the libraries and run reading activities within them. Ultimately, the aim is to make any library that The Bookery sets up become an integrated part of the school, run by the school.

New library assistants take part in a one-week introduction course that gets them up to a basic level of competency of managing a school library. Then on an ongoing basis, they learn how to bring reading to life in order to make library periods a fun experience for pupils.

Outside their own class time, the bulk of this learning happens at our monthly ‘cluster meetings’ of seven or eight library assistants. At these meetings, they share ideas and learnings, and receive support and advice from their peers and The Bookery’s Library Support team – all in a positive and constructive manner. The structure and content of our cluster meetings is based on a model developed with our key partner, the University of Cape Town’s Schools Improvement Initiative.

However, we often have the opportunity to expose the library assistants to special projects such as the Phendulani Quiz in 2016. Because the International Kids Lit Quiz had proven to be popular in many schools across South Africa, Marj Brown, Senior School History teacher at Roedean School in Johannesburg, founded the Phendulani Quiz. This is a quiz run in under-resourced schools across the country that follows a similar format to the Kids Lit Quiz. The significant difference, however, is that the pupils participating in the Phendulani Quiz are questioned on a limited number of books. In 2016, Marj Brown, Westcott Primary in Cape Town and The Bookery teamed up to run the first Phendulani Quiz in the Western Cape province.

The library assistants from the four Bookery-supported schools that took part in the quiz – Blossom Street Primary, Delta Primary, Heatherdale Primary and Koeberg Primary – along with volunteers affiliated with their libraries, were the driving force behind their pupils’ successes and enjoyment of the quiz.

The Grade 5-7 bookworms involved in the quiz loved the process of reading and discussing the books with their peers, their library assistants and the two dedicated volunteers. As the pupils had never participated in an event such as Phendulani before, they were understandably nervous and unsure of what to expect.

As a result, we decided to host a mock quiz for the four schools in September. The joy that the pupils experienced through their participation in this mock quiz and when receiving book prizes motivated them to work even harder for the final quiz. It was wonderful for them to meet pupils from the other participating schools, and their enthusiasm clearly rubbed off on one another.

At the final event in October, hosted by Westcott Primary, the pupils’ pride (as well as nerves) and enthusiasm was

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Bookery helps coordinate first phendulani
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The quiz was an absolute joy to experience and was a major highlight of 2016 for The Bookery. It was a remarkable achievement for one of the teams from Delta Primary to finish second. This is a school in a very poor area where pupils are generally only exposed to books when they visit the library. They can be very proud of their result.

In 2017, The Bookery is coordinating a literary quiz for six partner schools based on six exciting books that mostly tell stories set across Africa, including the No. 1 Car Spotter by renowned Nigerian author, Atinuke. We will give support to the participating library assistants and after the quiz takes place, they will share their experiences with the rest of the library assistant team.

FROM REGION 9 — UNITED STATES

Sabatical year allows for extra development
BY ADRIANA BOGLIOLO SIRIHAL DUARTE

The opportunity to do research during a sabbatical year is really a unique one. I had the privilege of enjoying this opportunity at Florida State University’s School of Information, where I have been conducting research since August 2016 with the goal to find possibilities for development and improvement of the school library curricula and for Brazilian school libraries.

The question that gave rise to my research problem was a law enacted in 2010 that stated that in 10 years all Brazilian schools must have school libraries. Six years later we noticed that the Brazilian National and the State School Parameters said nothing about school libraries and that directors and school teachers knew little or nothing about it. They even didn’t know what a school library is for. Another major problem is that the librarian undergraduate and graduate schools at Brazilian Universities are generalists and almost never include courses that discuss school libraries. So, we’re not educating school librarians to work in all those school libraries that will be needed in the next few years.

When I put this problem to Dr. Nancy Everhart of Florida State University, I received all the support I needed to submit my research project for a one-year exchange at that university. The Professor has been supervising me since then, and collaborating so that the whole process occurs with the maximum possible success. She helped administer my process of entry to the institution; guided me in the steps for submitting the research project to the Institutional Review Board (IRB)/Human Subjects Committee for approval; promoted my meeting with several school librarians who would be interviewed for my research; and collaborated throughout the entire research process.

During the 10 months that I have been here, I have interviewed 24 school librarians, with the aim of learning from their professional experience the most important points that could be extended to Brazil via transferability of models of establishing and managing school libraries. Also, by trying to understand how the skills learned by them in university courses are helping to increase school library services, the goal is to be able to create new content of teaching for Brazil, where we don’t have as yet a mature trajectory in online courses. For that, I also collected data from the observation of two online courses offered for the master’s degree, as well as from interviews of the professors who offer these courses.

Currently, the data collected are being analyzed. Partial results of the research have already been sufficient to generate an accepted article for publication in the main periodical on school libraries in Brazil (Biblioteca Escolar em Revista, http://revistas.ffclrp.usp.br/berev), as well as as a presentation at the IASL 2017 congress in August in Long Beach.

In addition, as a result of my visit to Florida State University, I should like to thank Dr. Marcia Mardis for the unique opportunity to be a co-editor of the No. 1 issue of 2017 School Libraries Worldwide.

I shall also mention that during this period, I maintained contact with the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), my home institution, through which I continue to guide masters’ and doctoral students. Of these, a master’s and a doctoral student, respectively, defended their thesis and dissertation and a master’s degree student defended her prospectus. I attended all those by video conference.

I am sure that the final results of the survey will still generate countless publications and I am extremely grateful to Florida State University (FSU) for the opportunity offered me. It is extremely gratifying to publish each research result by signing as a visiting professor of this institution. The opportunity of a well-spent sabbatical depends not only on the professional, but also on the personal part of the institution that receives us, so I have no words to thank the colleagues of the FSU’s School of Information who received me among them during this year.
The first Regional Conference of the Latin America and the Caribbean was held at the Mona Visitors’ Lodge, at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus during the period, July 12-15, 2016. Participants numbered 110 and represented Antigua, the Bahamas, Belize, Dutch St. Maarten, Jamaica, Qatar, St Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago. The Conference was endorsed by the Faculty of Humanities and Education UWI, The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS), UWI. The UWI, Mona Library, the Jamaica Library Service (JLS) and the Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA). Planning of the Conference was undertaken by an Organizing Committee chaired by the IASL Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Dr. Paulette Stewart.

The theme of The Conference was “Unlocking the Full Potential of the 21st Century School Library: Emerging Trends for Librarians and Users” and the nine sub-themes were as follows:

- Practical Information Technology Solutions for Developing Economies: Exploring Open-Source Options
- Rebranding the School Librarian in a ‘Pocket-Library’ Society
- Embracing the Shift from Library Skills to Life Skills: Librarians as Partners in Media and Information Literacy Education
- Redesigning and Redefining Learning Spaces in the 21st Century School Libraries
- Access to Information: A Consideration of Students Rights, the Law and Implications for a New Education Paradigm in an Information Society
- The Use of Web 3.0 Tools in School Libraries to Provide Greater Access to Information
- Resource Provision: Getting a ‘Byte’ of the Shrinking Budget
- The Administrator’s Role in the Development of School Libraries
- School Libraries Facilitating Academic Excellence

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

1. To bring together teacher-librarians, educators, school administrators, school boards, and administrators of teachers’ associations, to present and discuss issues related to school librarianship;
2. To provide a platform for school librarians to share knowledge and best practices through professional papers, research reports and posters;
3. To explore new ideas to improve the image and working condition of school librarians;
4. To introduce IASL as a Library Association that supports school librarians and school libraries.

OPENING CEREMONY

At the Opening Ceremony, Professor Waibinte Wariboko, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Mrs Karen Barton, Director General of the Jamaica Library Service and Mrs Jollette Russell, President of LIAJA, greeted the participants. Cultural items were presented by Rose Gordon Kindergarten and Preparatory School and the Jamaica Library Service Chorale.

KEYNOTE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTER

Dr. Ross Todd, Associate Professor, Rutgers University, USA presented the keynote address titled School Libraries: Unlocking the Potential through Inquiry, Innovation and Data. Dr. Todd explored opportunities for school libraries to lead social justice initiatives, learning community transformation, and digital, social and cultural well-being through information and digital literacies. There were 19 paper and 4 poster presentations, as well as a workshop.

WORKSHOP

Students as Authentic Researchers. Dr. Ross Todd, Associate Professor, Rutgers University, USA.

The session focused on Guided Inquiry as an instructional framework for developing students as authentic, independent researchers capable of engaging with diverse information sources to build deep knowledge and understanding, as well as a range of information capabilities.

It elaborated on Guided Inquiry as a constructivist, research-based instructional model, and outlined a range of instructional interventions suitable for use with students that develop inquiry, critical thinking, and knowledge building and production capabilities.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Paulette Stewart- Chair, Mrs. Rosella Spencer- Co-Chair, Mrs. Evadne McLean –Secretary, Dr. Marline Hines – Exhibition, Dr. Rosemarie Heath and Dr. Yan Wu- programme, Dr. Ruth Baker-Gardner- Secretariat, Mrs. Elinor Sutherland and Beverley Lashley  Fundraising, Professor. Fay Durrant and Mrs. Hyacinth Brown- Editors for the papers presented, Mrs. Patsy Gordon and Dionne Barnett, Ms Daisy St. Rose- St. Lucia, Mr. Albert Boekhorst – Brazil, and Mrs. Janet Findley- Promotion.
The Book Buzz in Croatia is electrifying

BY VANJA JURILJ

In April, world celebrate the birthday of the famous fairy-tale writer Hans Christian Andersen. His birthday, April the 2nd, is for over 40 years marked as the International Children’s Book Day.

The Croatian Association of School Librarians is joining the celebration with its Book Buzz ceremony. The main motive behind the event is to praise books and reading. Book Buzz is being held for the third year in a row, in cooperation with the National and University Library of Croatia and several prominent publishing houses.

This year’s Book Buzz celebration was held at the National and University Library in Zagreb on Monday, the 3rd of April. The ceremony was different from the previous ones due to the participation of high-school students and, due to the incorporation of some brand-new concepts into the organization of the ceremony. The imaginative, creative and impeccable image of the event was made possible by the students of the Gymnasium Sesvete, Gymnasium Titus Brezovacki, and the 7th and 15th municipal grammar schools. The joyous atmosphere was enriched by musical plays performed by the students of the Ivan Zajc Music School. More than 200 elementary and high school students from the City of Zagreb, Zagreb County, Bjelovarsko-Bilogorska and Brodsko-Posavska County attended the ceremony. The program was prepared by their mentors and led by children’s writer Sinisa Cmrk and the president of the CASL Vanja Jurilj.

The students represented the works of Croatian literary classics – Ivana Brlic Mazuranic and Mato Lovrak, along with the works of some globally acknowledged authors. Among others, the works of Astrid Lindgren, Mark Twain, Friedrich Schiller, Edgar Alan Poe and Shakespeare were presented. They did it in original and creative ways by employing stage performances, art and music contests. Famous Croatian children-and-young-adults’ writers, namely Nada Zidar Bogadi and Bozidar Prosenjak, appeared on the stage.

It was indeed a perfect afternoon full of great performances… from Ofelia’s floating body, to the Gogol’s dead souls (Gymnasium of Titus Brezovacki), through an unusual representation of the Edgar Alan Poe as a man who really loved cats (Industrial School), to the enviously audacious Audition of Gymnasium Sesvete students.

Furthermore, the appreciative audience enjoyed the performances of Lovro Rimac (The Monologue of Duke Münchausen) from Titus Brezovacki Gymnasium and Tin Pisonic’s monologue (inspired by motifs from Harry Potter’s novel) from the Elementary School of Antun Mihanovic in Zagreb.

At the end, we expressed our sincere gratitude to everyone who participated. We believe that the day Book Buzz in Croatia gave us a huge buzz!
Of all Board positions, open for the next term, only one had more than one aspiring candidate, and that was that of Regional Director: International Schools. All other openings had one applicant, which means they will automatically assume the position following the IASL 2017 Conference. Included within this edition is an overview of each candidate, including those for the contested position of Regional Director: International Schools.

At the end of this newsletter you will find the proxy ballot in which you will be able to cast your vote between these two candidates should you be unable to attend the next AGM taking place during the 2017 IASL Conference in Long Beach, California (USA).

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## BOARD ELECTIONS

### JENNIFER BRANCH-MUELLER

**Treasurer**

**Nominee’s qualifications:**
- Experience as a treasurer for two non-profit organizations
- Long-time membership in IASL
- Financial support to attend conferences
- Committed to the continuation of IASL
- Experience with online IASL board meetings

**Nominee’s current work position:**
- Professor (as of July 1, 2017)
- Department of Elementary Education
- Coordinator of the Teacher-Librarianship by Distance Learning Program
- University of Alberta

**Statement from Jennifer Branch-Mueller:**

Twenty years ago, in the summer of 1997, I attended my first IASL conference in Vancouver, Canada. That conference changed my life. One year later I was living in Edmonton, enrolled in a PhD program at the University of Alberta with Dr. Dianne Oberg as my supervisor, and on my way to becoming a life-long IASL member.

Fast forward twenty years and I have now been to ten IASL conferences, have been on the editorial board for the IASL journal, School Libraries Worldwide, since 2005, have contributed to the association as a SIG chair, and am now ready to take on a more senior leadership role.

I have experience as a treasurer for my local school library association, for my local community league, and believe that I can contribute to IASL by taking on this position.

### MIHAELA BANEK ZORICA

**Vice-President (Association Operations)**

**Nominee’s qualifications:**
- Associate professor and IASL VP Associations operations for one term
- In 2010 winner of the IASL annual award
- Teaching at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level courses on School libraries and E-learning

**Nominee’s current work position:**
- Associate professor at the Department of Information and Communication sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb
- Head of the Chair for Media and Communication

**Statement from Mihaela Banek Zorica:**

I have served one term as IASL VP and would like to continue my work for one more term. There are still some ideas and activities that I have started and would like to further work on them. One of those activities is the development of different strategies for membership increase. One of those is the Partner membership model.

Furthermore, I plan to work on further development of IASL visibility such as social networks presence. This has already been done in close collaboration with Information officer and I tend to work on this in the next couple of years.

I also plan to continually work on different activities organized by the IASL, especially in helping elected and potential conference chairs in successful planning and creating of annual conferences.
BOARD ELECTIONS

Of all Board positions, open for the next term, only one had more than one aspiring candidate, and that was that of Regional Director: International Schools. All other openings had one applicant, which means they will automatically assume the position following the IASL 2017 Conference. Included within this edition is an overview of each candidate, including those for the contested position of Regional Director: International Schools.

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MADHU BHARGAVA
Regional Director: International Schools

Nominee’s qualifications:
Diploma LIS, Bachelor of Arts, BLIS, MLIS

Nominee’s current work position:
• G. D. Goenka World School -Dean of Libraries-
• G. D. Goenka World School -Coordinator International Activities-
• IBAP LIS- Member and India Representative
• British Council- School Ambassador North India
• IFLA-Standing committee member Asia and Oceania

Nominee’s previous organizational skills:
• IASL-Regional Director International Schools 2015-17
• IASL- Regional Director Asia- 2013-15
• IASL regional Director Asia-2011-13
• British Council-School Ambassador-2013-2017

Statement from Madhu Bhargava:
Many of us may be working in International Schools or engaged in International activities. But are we truly international? Do we really have international mindset? Are we facilitating our pupils to be global citizens?

My professional commitment as Regional Director for International Schools is to concentrate my maximum potential and energies towards creating windows in the libraries to the world. I would work towards connecting more and more school librarians and through them the students to learn global skills. I visualize school libraries to be the gateway to internationalism.

ZAKIR HOSSAIN
Regional Director: International Schools

Nominee’s qualifications:
Master in Information Science and Library Management

Nominee’s current work position:
• Teacher Librarian and Extended Essay Coordinator
• Independent Researcher

Nominee’s previous organizational skills:
• Teacher-Librarian at EUROPEAN International School Ho Chi Minh City (2015-)
• ICT and Library Teacher at Singapore International School (2013-2015)
• Manager of Library and Information Center at Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (2011-2013)
• Library Officer at University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (2009-2011)
• Primary Science Teacher at Sprout Int’l School Bangladesh (2005-2006)

Statement from Zakir Hossain:
Zakir Hossain, Teacher-Librarian, researcher and an advocate of library based lifelong learning, originally from Bangladesh but working in overseas since 2011. His research interests lie in the field of Social Media and Web 2.0 tools for School Librarians PD; Blended librarianship and Academic Honesty. Zakir has taken the term ‘life-long learner’ personally, constantly pursuing ways to enhance his own learning through Social Media, MOOCs and in person. His awards and grants include Takeshi Murofushi Research Award 2016 (ISLP) and the prestigious Anthony Thompson Award-2013 (CILIP, UK). As an IASL member, Zakir is passionate and committed to bridging the IASL and the International Schools Library Professionals globally for mutual empowerment. Personally, Zakir is a lover of Internet, travelling and historical fiction books-a geek at heart!
Any individual members of IASL who are unable to attend an Annual General Meeting may designate another individual IASL member to vote on his or her behalf using the form below. Proxy voting may occur in the election of officers and directors and in any matter of substance upon which there is to be a record of votes counted.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP (IASL) INC. PROXY VOTING FORM – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

I, _______________________________ of _____________________________________ (Personal, Institution, or Association address) being a member of the association, appoint _____________________________________ of _____________________________________ (Personal, Institution, or Association address) as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the association, to be held at California State University, Long Beach, California (USA) in August 2017 and at any adjournment of the meeting.

Signed this _________ day of ____________, ____________ (Day, Month, Year).

Signature ___________________________________________________________.

Candidates for the position of IASL Regional Director: International Schools
Mark ONE box below with an X to vote for the candidate of your choice.

☐ Madhu Bhargava, India

☐ Zakir Hossain, Vietnam

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