

AAMES

NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Vice-Chair

The next two years will be critical for AAMES. Terms for a number committee leadership positions will be expiring; meanwhile active new membership is down. I realize that everyone is busy with other commitments, but if AAMES is to thrive, members must volunteer their time. It is a simple fact, but difficult to manifest. If you are on a tenure, track I urge you to volunteer for AAMES committees. Professional involvement is important in a tenure dossier and AAMES is a great place to start small within a large organization like ACRL. I myself have gone from committee member, to webmaster, to Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. I've met so many wonderful people within AAMES and ACRL. I've expanded my collection development knowledge, met foreign language cataloguing experts, and begun to understand the difficulties facing Asian, African, and Middle-Eastern librarians.

Next year I want to poll our members to see what types of goods and services they would like to see from AAMES. In order to do that we'll need more active members, so please consider volunteering today. We have an online form at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/aames/aamescommittee.htm> or you can e-mail me directly at cat2@buffalo.edu. Consider dropping by the AAMES All-Committee meeting at ALA Midwinter to learn more about ways you can get involved.

Thank you,
Cynthia Tysick
Vice-Chair/Chair-elect
cat2@buffalo.edu

From the Editor

This has been a great year for AAMES as we made history when Kay Raseroka, President of the International Federation of Library Association (IFLA) and University Librarian of the University of Botswana, Africa, was invited to speak at the annual meeting of ACRL's Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section (AAMES) in Orlando on June 25, 2004. In the history of the American Library Association as well as ACRL, it was the first time that a standing President of IFLA addressed its membership at the Annual conference at the AAMES platform. Dr. Mohammed Aman of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Professor Ching-Chih Chen of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, and Professor James Natsis of the West Virginia State University also delivered lectures on "Impact of Technology on Library Collections and Services in Asia, Africa, and Middle East."

AAMES New Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

Dr. Majed Kahader, Chair
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AAMES executive committee is grateful to its outgoing Chair, Dr. R. N. Sharma, for his excellent contribution, leadership and encouragement provided during his term as Chair and Vice-Chair. During his tenure, there was a marked increase in the AAMES membership, a newsletter was started, AAMES brochure was released, and various programs/activities were initiated. Let us continue the tradition to work cooperatively for the betterment and prestige of our section. I shall appreciate and encourage our membership to forward me their contributions in the form of news, writ-up, and ideas for the next issue of our popular newsletter.

Hope to see you all at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January 2005 at Boston, MA.

Rajwant Chilana
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and Editor, AAMES Newsletter*
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Contents

<i>Message from Vice-Chair</i>	1
<i>From the editor</i>	1
<i>AAMES Program</i>	2
<i>Committee Reports</i>	3
<i>Workshop Report</i>	5
<i>Forthcoming conferences</i>	5
<i>ACRL News</i>	6
<i>Get involved</i>	7



Anjana Bhatt, Professor Ching-Chih Chen, Dr. R.N. Sharma,
Kay Raseroka-President (IFLA), Professor James Natsis, and Dr. Mohammed Aman

AAMES Program at Orlando

IFLA President at the AAMES/ACRL Program—A Report
AAMES makes history (contributed by Dr. R.N. Sharma, in the *C&RL News*, September 2004, Vol. 65, No. 8, pp. 431-32)

History was made in Orlando, when Kay Raseroka, President of the International Federation of Library Association and Institutions (IFLA), spoke at the meeting of ACRL's Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section (AAMES). It was the first time in the history of the ACRL that a standing IFLA President addressed its membership at an ALA conference. It was certainly a rare and a golden opportunity for conference delegates to hear the views of IFLA's President and other distinguished and internationally recognized speakers. The theme of the meeting was "Impact of Technology on Library Collections and Services in Asia, Africa, and Middle East."

Raseroka (University of Botswana, Africa) presented a paper on the "Impact of Information Communications

Technology (ICT) on Academic Libraries in Sub-Saharan Africa, with Specific Reference to Botswana." She gave an overview of ICT and its application during the last 30 years and shared her concerns about library budgets and their impact on libraries in Africa.

Other speakers who shared the stage were Mohammed Aman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), Ching-Chih Chen (Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College), and James Natsis (West Virginia State University).

Chen, presented an overview of her project, "Global Memory Net," an international project supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation's International Digital Library Program. She discussed the potentials and challenges of developing a portal to include valuable images and videos of the world's cultures, heritage and histori-

cal resources, including examples of two Asian countries, China and India, and their rich cultures. Chen emphasized that the time has arrived to share the information with others through technology rather than store it in the library in this digital age.

Aman presented a paper on the "Information Technology and Library Systems in the Arab World." In his view, the change in the troubled region has been rather slow due to a number of socio-economic, political, and technical factors. Aman also briefed the delegates on the new Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt and the progress this library has made.

Natsis spoke about a very successful partnership between the French-speaking National University of Benin (NUB) in West Africa, and the Drain-Jordan Library of West Virginia State University (WVSU). He mentioned that despite the cultural and language barriers between the two nations, WVSU was able to help NUB introduce technology in the library and train their librarians during their three-year partnership. It was made possible with the help of a grant from the United Negro College Fund and the United States Agency for International Development.



Dr. R.N. Sharma, Chair-AAMES, Kay Raseroka-President (IFLA),
and Dr. Rajwant Chilana-Editor-AAMES Newsletter.

Committee Reports

Anjana Bhatt, Chair - Program Planning Committee, reported that AAMES is co-sponsoring a program next year with the Rare Book and Manuscripts Section on "Collecting World Cultures: African, Asian, Caribbean, and Native American Cultural Materials in Chicago Institutions". This event will be held on June 26, 2005 from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Chicago.

Outline of the program-

Chicago institutions have amassed extensive collections of culturally diverse collections representing world cultures, including those from the New World (Native American, Caribbean), Africa, and the Middle East. Librarians and professors from Northwestern University, Newberry Library, and University of Illinois at Chicago will discuss challenges in dealing with ethics and management of the collections, including possible cultural appropriation, multifaceted use by native communities, and challenges presented by linguistic diversity. Speakers will include:

1. David Easterbrook, Curator of the Melville J. Herskovitz Library of African Studies at Northwestern University on "Collecting African cultures";
2. Nancy Cirillo, UIC English Department, with Nancy John, Associate University Librarian, UIC on "Developing and Using the Caribbean Collections of the University of Illinois at Chicago,
3. Brian Hosmer, Research Director of the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History on "American Indian collections at the Newberry Library and the American Indian communities"; and
4. James Nye, Director, South Asia Language and Area Center and

Bibliographer for Southern Asia on "Maintaining South Asian cultural patrimony with preservation surrogates in Chicago".

Asian Studies

CONSALD News - The Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation (CONSALD) held their meeting on October 14, 2004 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison to discuss several issues relating to library services. Wayne Hayes made a presentation about PAIR- Portal to Asian Internet Resources- that offers scholars, students and public more than six thousand professionally selected, cataloged and annotated online resources. Jerry Hall presented information about various activities of the Digital South Asia Library (DSAL) project, and discussed the progress of digitization of language dictionaries. Information about the South Asian Union Catalogue (SAUC) was presented by Jim Nye of the University of Chicago. David Magier of the Columbia University stressed the need to have more South Asian serials in the JSTOR. Besides these, automatic searching of vendor lists was initiated by Tim Bryson, and David Nelson discussed a report about the Non-Roman scripts in catalogs. Presentations were also made by the representatives of the Library of Congress Acquisition Program. Prior to this, another meeting of the South Asian Information Access discussed the progress of various contributions to the project during the past year.

CEAL News - The Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) Committee on Technical Processing, with generous support of the University of Chicago Library, will conduct two separate but consecutively offered Cooperative Online Serials (CONSER)-coordinated Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program (SCCTP) Workshops: 1) Electronic Serials Cataloging Workshop on Monday, March 28, 2005 (all day); and

2) Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop on Tuesday, March 29, 2005 (all day) at the University of Chicago. Each of these two SCCTP workshops is independent of each other; and those interested and eligible may wish to take either one or both of these two workshops. The registration fee payable to the Association for Asian Studies is \$80 for the Electronic Serials Cataloging Workshop, \$85 for the Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop, and \$165 for attending both workshops. Those interested current CEAL members in good standing (for CEAL membership information, please see: <http://www.sois.uwm.edu/jeong/ceal/CEALjealsubnpersonal.htm>) are welcome to fill out an online registration form found at URL: <http://www.library.yale.edu/eastasian/ksuzuki/05CEALCatWorkshop/Registration.html#RForm>

CALA News - The Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) Mentorship Committee invites interested librarians/students to participate in the CALA Mentorship Program. The program matches you with an experienced member of CALA as your mentor. A CALA mentor can provide input to your academic research, assist you in setting career goals, proofread your resume, share librarianship experience, provide networking opportunity, and answer your questions about the library profession. It is believed that everyone will benefit greatly of this CALA mentor program. For program description and application visit - <http://www.white-clouds.com/cala/mentorship/mentorprog.htm>. For further information on CALA visit <http://www.cala-web.org>

Asian Chapter of SLA - the Special Library Association is one of the International Associations of the largest worldwide membership. Its Asian chapter is one of the important chapters, covering a large geographical area consisting of twenty two countries namely Bangladesh,

Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hawaii, Honking, India, Indonesia, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Asian chapter has several plans including Networking all Asian Libraries; to organize annual meet of Asian Libraries; to organize workshops/seminars in various countries of the region; to provide guidelines and professional support to the Asian Libraries; to provide training to information professionals; to create a common platform for Asian region; and to support SLA activities by increasing Asian membership.. For more information visit <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cas/>

African Studies

Africana Librarians Council (ALC) members met at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor from May 6-8, 2004. While the focus of the meeting was on Africa, other presentations were also made, and various projects were discussed.

Professor Derrick L. Cogburn of the School of Information <http://www.si.umich.edu/~dcogburn/>) spoke on "Globalization and the Information Society: Implications for Africa and the Developing World". This featured the Collaboratory on Technology-Enhanced Learning Communities (COTELCO) (<http://www.cotelco.net/>) with partnerships with South Africa's University of the Witwatersrand, University of the North, and University of Pretoria.

Egranary Digital Library is a project of WiderNet (<http://www.widernet.org/digitalLibrary/>) provides access to donated full text material on hard disks to libraries in Africa.

Archives preservation: The Cooperative Africana Microforms Project is considering cooperative projects in preserving archives in Liberia and

Mozambique, on the model of its successful partnership with the National Archives of Senegal.

DATAD, the Association of African Universities' Database of African Theses and Dissertations (<http://www.aau.org/datad/>) is getting closer to resolving issues of intellectual property that remain roadblocks to providing access to full text (either print or digital) to dissertations in its database. With this expectation, ASL will now consider more seriously subscribing to the database.

Kwetu, an African-based database of a variety of information sources, also seems to be well established, and ASL will be considering subscribing. <http://www.kwetu.net/first.asp>

The Cooperative Africana Microforms Project has digitized and placed on its Web site a large number of finding aids to its collections. For details please visit <http://www.crl.edu/areastudies/CAMP/collections/campguide.htm>

For those interested in donating books to African Libraries, the Book Donations Committee of the Africana Librarians Council has a directory and handbook: <http://www.albany.edu/%7Edlafonde/Global/bookdonation.htm>

A senior JSTOR executive was invited for a presentation on JSTOR's efforts in providing access to academic and research libraries in developing nations. Although most of its efforts to date have focused on libraries in India, there is considerable interest in services to Africa as well.

Digitization and Preservation: John Price Wilkin described University of Michigan's extensive work in digitization. He emphasized the utility of digitization for preservation if adequate standards are met. He showed examples from UM's Making

of America (<http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagr/p/>)

Middle Eastern Studies

MELA Meeting - Annual Meeting of the MELA (Middle East Librarians Association) will be held at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco from Thursday-Saturday November 18-20, 2004.

Middle East/Islamic Library Project In Puerto Rico -

Book, periodicals and journal donations are sought to start the first Middle East Library on the Island of Puerto Rico. No monetary donations are requested, only publications, videos, audio CDs or software. For information, or to send materials, contact: Wilfredo Amr Ruiz, Ortega & Ruiz Law Offices, PSC, HC 44, Bzn. 12550, Cayey, PR 00736-9702 USA (brendar@tld.net).

The Baghdad Museum Project -

As we are aware that the Baghdad Museum, or the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad, has been looted, stripping it of a priceless collection of cultural artifacts dating back to the dawn of civilization. As you will see from the "museum walkthrough" (available from the website), these are major historical treasures not only for the Iraqi people but for all humanity as well. How can we respond to this cultural catastrophe? There is an opportunity to promote better dialogue among our cultures. The Baghdad Museum Project proposes a 4-part program to not only help save the museum but also to bring about improved relations in the international community. The goals are to: Establish a comprehensive online catalog of all cultural artifacts in the Baghdad Museum to help locate them, discourage illegal dealing in these antiquities, and encourage their safe return to the museum's curators in Baghdad; create a virtual Baghdad Museum,

a content-rich website—free to the general public—based on the Baghdad Museum collection, in order to stimulate cross-cultural appreciation and dialogue. It is anticipated that this site would feature the best search and navigation tools, including interactive streaming video, GIS, 3D navigation, and online classrooms; build a 3D collaborative workspace within the virtual Baghdad Museum, to allow international teams to work together on renovation designs, exhibit layouts, and new building proposals for the museum in Baghdad, as well as fundraising programs for construction and events; and establish a resource center for community cultural development within the virtual Baghdad Museum, offering experiences, ideas and success stories that show how people can contribute creatively to their own culture, and thereby strengthen their historical memory. For information and or to participate, contact: John Simmons, Chairman, The Baghdad Museum Project (JohnSimmons@BaghdadMuseum.org; BaghdadMuseum.org).

Workshop Report

LEAF-VN's CAACR2 Workshops: Vietnamese's Modest Step toward International Cataloguing Standards (by Binh P. Le, Associate Librarian, Penn State Abington)

Following the donation of 1,800 copies of the concise AACR2, 1988 revision (CAACR2) to Vietnamese libraries by the Library and Education Foundation for Vietnam (LEAF-VN) in 2003, Ms. Lien-Huong Fiedler, President of LEAF-VN and Mr. Pham The Khang, Director of Vietnam's National Library and Vietnam's public library system worked together to design a series of library workshops on CAACR2 for Vietnamese library professionals.

Originally, LEAF-VN put together a sizable team of instructors, many of whom are cataloguing librarians at

the Library of Congress. However, due to LEAF-VN's inability to secure the needed funds from charitable organizations, only two Vietnamese American cataloguing librarians traveled to Vietnam to conduct the workshops this past summer. (The expenses for these workshops were paid for by donations mostly from Vietnamese expatriates.)

The two-member team included Ms. Le-Huong Pham, a founding member of LEAF-VN, co-translator of the AACR2, and cataloguing librarian at the Modesto Community College, California, and Ms. Ngoc-My Guidarelli, a cataloguing librarian at the Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia. The team held its first weeklong workshop at Vietnam's National Library where 120 library professionals working in public and research libraries throughout North Vietnam attended. The second workshop, at the request of Mr. Nguyen Huy Chuong, Director of Library of Library and Information Center (LIC) of Hanoi National University of Vietnam and President of the Northern Academic Library Association (NALA) was held at the Library of Vietnam's National University. Over 100 academic library professionals attended the second workshop. The last workshop was held at the Ministry of Culture and Information Office II's Conference Room (Van Phong II cua Bo Van Hoa Thong Tin tai TP HCM) in Ho Chi Minh City. According to the newspaper Lao Dong, as many as 200 library professionals representing 120 academic and public libraries from all over South Vietnam participated. These three one-week long workshops received good coverage in Vietnam's leading newspapers such as the Nhan Dan (People's Daily), Lao Dong (Labor) and Thanh Nien (Youth).

This series of library workshops was not the first ones conducted in Vietnam. Indeed, in the last sev-

eral years the Vietnamese library leadership, in its attempt to join the international library community, has invited many Western library experts to conduct library workshops aimed at exposing Vietnamese library professionals, who are still using Russian and Eastern European library practices, to the Anglo-American library principles and practices most noticeably cataloguing. The LEAF-VN's CAACR2 workshops, conducted in Vietnamese, have further broadened the Vietnamese library professionals' understanding of the Anglo-American form of librarianship.

Forthcoming Conferences

International Conference on "Information Management in a Knowledge Society" will be held from February 21-25, 2005 at Mumbai, India. This event has been organized by the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centers (IASLIC). For more information, please have a look at: <http://www.icim2005.org>

Society for Information Science-2005 has organized a conference on "Delivery of Information Services through Distributed Digital Environment" at the Department of Library and Information Science, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, from January 27-29, 2005. For details, visit: <http://sis-india.netfirms.com/sis2005.htm>

The theme of the **INFLIBNET's CALIBER-2005** is "Multilingual Computing and Digital Information Management in Networked Environment", and this will be held from February 2-4, 2005 at Cochin. For more information: <http://web.inflibnet.ac.in/caliber2005/inflibnet.jsp>

Museums and the Web 2005 -The international conference for culture and heritage on-line will be held at

Vancouver, British Columbia (Canada) from April 13-16, 2005. <http://www.archimuse.com/mw2005/>

The Seventh International Conference of Asian Digital Libraries will be held in Shanghai from December 13-17, 2004. <http://icadl2004.sjtu.edu.cn/introduction.htm>

Asian Library and Information Conference (ALIC) – 2004 on “Libraries - Gateways to Information and Knowledge in the Digital Age” has been scheduled from November 21 - 24, 2004 at Dusit Thani Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. This event has been co-organized by the Thai Library Association, Asia Library News, and Info Media Asia Limited, and supported by UNESCO and IFLA. <http://www.alic2004.org/>

The 2005 ALA Midwinter Meeting will be held in Boston, MA, from January 14-19, 2005. The exhibits will be held January 15-17, 2005 in the Hynes Convention Center. Headquarter Hotels will be the Marriott Copley Place, Sheraton Boston Hotel and the Westin Copley Place. A meeting for AAMES members is being planned. <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2005/home.htm>

The next **Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS)** will be organized at Chicago from March 31- April 3, 2005, and is devoted to planned programs of scholarly papers, roundtable discussions and panel sessions on a wide range of problems in research and teaching, and on Asian affairs in general. During this event there will be meetings of South Asian as well as East Asian library specialists. <http://www.aasianst.org/annmtg.htm>

ACRL 12th National Conference and Exhibits

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) announced the opening of registration for the

12th ACRL National Conference, “Currents and Convergence: Navigating the Rivers of Change,” to be held in Minneapolis, April 7-10, 2005. Register by February 7, 2005, and save more than 20% on your conference registration. Group discounts are also available for institutions that register ten or more employees.

The ACRL 12th National Conference offers stimulating programs that reflect the dynamics and diversity of our profession. Choose from more than 200 peer-reviewed programs! The ACRL 12th National Conference also offers a distinguished lineup of keynote speakers. For a complete program details, registration and hotel reservations or to customize a conference schedule and sign up for a tour, visit - www.acrl.org/minneapolis or contact 800-545-2433 ext. 2515; or email: acrl@ala.org.

ACRL News ACRL Board of Directors to Vote on Dues Increase

At the June 2004 Annual Meeting, the ACRL Board of Directors passed a resolution, at the recommendation of Budget and Finance Committee, to consider a dues increase for certain categories of ACRL membership. A variety of factors contributed to the development of the resolution, including the following:

- Although the “cost of doing business” has risen steadily over the past 15 years, ACRL has not raised member dues since 1991. Therefore, the dues revenue collected from each member has failed to keep pace with natural increases in operating expenses due to inflation.
- Advertising revenue from ACRL publications has decreased over the past few years and is not projected to rebound in the foreseeable future. Advertising revenue helps subsidize many member

services including programs at the ALA Annual Conference, section newsletters, and committee activities such as standards development, awards, as well as recent major initiatives in the areas of scholarly communication and information literacy. The dues increase will help offset the reduction in advertising revenue and ensure that important ACRL programs and services receive the funding they need.

- Development of new programs and services that add value to membership will require funding. As outlined in our recently adopted strategic plan, in the coming years ACRL will be developing additional programs and services that assist members in the areas of technology, delivery of services, standards development and implementation, issues papers, and local and national advocacy as requested in the recent member survey. The dues increase will provide necessary funding to make immediate progress on these important initiatives.
- After reviewing several options, the Budget and Finance Committee determined that a moderate dues increase would be the best funding mechanism to provide the necessary capital to sustain ACRL’s quality publications, continuing education programs, awards, standards development, and advocacy initiatives.

The proposed dues increase for personal members of ACRL is \$20, bringing annual dues to \$55. Student and retiree members will experience no dues increase at present. The Board plans to vote on adopting the resolution at its Midwinter Meeting in January. If the motion passes, a ballot to approve the dues increase will be distributed to all members in the spring of 2005.

The Board of Directors would like to hear from you as they consider this important decision. The first Board meeting at the Midwinter Meeting will include a 30-minute question and answer session in which we encourage you to participate. You may also contact individual board members (see the roster on the Web at <http://www.ala.org/acrl>, click on "About ACRL," then "ACRL Board of Directors," and "ACRL Board of Directors Roster") at your convenience to share your comments, questions, and ideas.

Get Involved with AAMES!

Serving on a committee is a great way to get valuable professional experience and improve your knowledge of issues and projects important to our section. Fortunately, volunteering to serve on a committee has never been easier for AAMES members. You can now use our online form from the comfort of your home or office-
<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/about-acrl/acrlsections/aames/aamescommittee.htm>

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Be sure to join AAMES when you renew your Membership or initially join. The Editorial Committee Consists of Dr. Rajwant Chilana, Editor, Anjana Bhatt, Cynthia Tysick, Emilie Ngo-Nguidjol, and Jian Tian.

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