

Library Association of Ireland
Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann

Annual Report 2016

The Library Association of Ireland
C/O 138-144 Pearse Street
Dublin 2

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Annual Report 2016
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ISSN: 0791-6248
www.libraryassociation.ie

Foreword



Dr. Philip Cohen, President of the Library Association of Ireland

This Annual Report records the great number and wide variety of activities undertaken throughout 2016 by the Library Association of Ireland on behalf of its members and the wider profession. As an organisation without any paid employees, we rely wholly on the commitment and hard work of volunteers. I thank them all now on my own behalf and on behalf of the membership at large.

I spoke at a conference recently about the benefits of membership. These benefits include the following:

- Formal and informal networking events
- Current awareness through An Leabharlann, Leabharlann-e, podcasts, social media and email lists
- Face-to-face and online CPD opportunities such as conferences, seminars and workshops
- Accreditation of those opportunities and of courses delivered by Third level institutions
- Access to the Professional Knowledge and Skills Base (PKSB) to keep track of personal development needs and activities
- Associateship and Fellowship awards
- Representation nationally and internationally
- Recognition by peers, employers and potential employers

During my Presidency, I have endeavoured to engage more with our Groups and Sections and with education providers, Government Departments and other external bodies such as CILIP, EBLIDA and IFLA. Such engagement is essential if we are to maintain relevance, survive and thrive as a professional association. We can take nothing for granted, of course, but I feel confident that the solid foundations of the past and the extensive efforts of the present will help us achieve much in the future. I look forward to accomplishing those achievements with you.

Philip Cohen

President
Library Association of Ireland

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Youth Libraries Group (YLG).....

Acknowledgements

Appendix: Organisation of the Association

List of Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used within the text of the report:

AMNCH	Adelaide, Meath, and National Children's Hospital
ANTLC	Academic and National Library Training Co-operative
CILIP	Chartered Institute for Library & Information Professionals
CDETB	City of Dublin Education and Training Board
CONUL	Consortium of National and University Libraries
CSSO	Chief State Solicitor's Office
CUAL	Connacht Ulster Alliance Libraries
DBS	Dublin Business School
DCPL	Dublin City Public Libraries
DCU	Dublin City University
DIT	Dublin Institute of Technology
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
GMIT	Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
HRB	Health Research Board
INCBS	Irish National Committee of the Blue Shield
HSE	Health Services Executive
ITT	Institute of Technology Tallaght
IMI	Irish Management Institute
LAI	Library Association of Ireland
LISC	Library and Information Services Council
LGMA	Local Government Management Agency
LYIT	Letterkenny Institute of Technology
NCAD	National College of Art and Design
NCEC	National Clinical Effectiveness Committee
NCI	National College of Ireland
NUI	National University of Ireland
NLI	National Library of Ireland
PKSB	Professional Knowledge and Skills Base (CILIP UK)
QQI	Quality and Qualifications Ireland
RCSI	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
RDS	Royal Dublin Society
RIA	Royal Irish Academy
TCD	Trinity College Dublin
UCC	University College Cork
UCD	University College Dublin
UCD SILS	University College Dublin, School of Information & Library Studies
UL	University of Limerick

List of Useful Websites

www.libraryassociation.ie Library Association of Ireland

www.cilip.org.uk/get-involved/regional-branches/ireland/pages/default.aspx
CILIP Ireland

www.eblida.org European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations: E.B.L.I.D.A.

www.ifla.org International Federation of Library Associations

Honorary Officers and Council 2016/2017

Honorary Officers

- **President:** Philip Cohen, Head of Library Services, Dublin Institute of Technology
- **Vice-Presidents:** Mary Stuart, County Librarian, Offaly County Library Service; Marian Higgins, County Librarian, Kildare Library and Arts Service
- **Hon. Secretary:** Betty Codd, Senior Librarian, Dublin City Public Libraries
- **Hon. Treasurer:** Lorna Dodd, Senior Librarian, Maynooth University Library
- **Hon. Auditor:** Brendan Martin, County Librarian, Wicklow County Library Service

Council

Jane Burns, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology (Chairman)
Sandra Collins, Director, National Library of Ireland
Melanie Cunningham, Waterford City and County Libraries
Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin Libraries
Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Public Libraries
Marian Higgins, Kildare Library and Arts Service
Lai Ma, University College Dublin, School of Information and Communications Studies
Cathal McCauley, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
Zoë Melling, Legal Aid Board
Eileen Morrissey, Wexford County Libraries
Mary Murphy, Meath County Libraries
Emer O'Brien, Tipperary Libraries
Kathryn Smith, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Mary Stuart, Offaly County Libraries (Deputy Chairman)
Joan Ward, Local Government Management Agency

The 2016/2017 Council met four times during its term of office to the end of December: 14th April, 26th May, 22th September, and 24th November. The previous Council met once in 2016: 21st January.

Attendance record

To end of December 2016 inclusive

Jane Burns	3
Betty Codd	4
Philip Cohen	4
Sandra Collins	3
Melanie Cunningham	4
Lorna Dodd	3
Catherine Gallagher	3
Margaret Hayes	4
Marian Higgins	2
Lai Ma	2
Cathal McCauley	2
Zoë Melling	1
Eileen Morrissey	3
Mary Murphy	1
Emer O'Brien	1
Kathryn Smith	2
Mary Stuart	3
Joan Ward	2

Developing the Profession

Professional Standards Committee

The objective of the LAI Education Committee: Professional Standards (the Committee) is to provide advice and guidance to Council in relation to professional ethics, core competencies for professional librarians, and other matters relating to standards as appropriate. The Committee is responsible for articulating the regulations in relation to accreditation of library courses (levels 8 and 9) in the Republic of Ireland and managing accreditation processes, as well as the LAI's ALAI and FLAI awards.

The members of the Committee (2015-16) were Philip Cohen (DIT); Madelaine Dennison (Houses of the Oireachtas); Siobhán Fitzpatrick (RIA; Convenor); Kate Kelly (RCSI); Gillian Kerins (IT Tallaght); Deirdre Ellis King; Cathal McCauley (Maynooth University); and Marjory Sliney. We acknowledge the continued commitment of Marjory Sliney to the management of award applications, and also thank Gillian Kerins for maintaining the Professional Standards area of the LAI website.

The Committee met quarterly during 2016 (17th February, 24th June, 19th October), with a year-end meeting scheduled for 5th December. Throughout the year the Committee worked closely with the Education Committee: Continuing Professional Development, and this collegiate working will continue in 2017.

The Committee agreed its work programme in February. An update on the key elements of this work programme is provided below:

1. Accreditation of Library Courses

A. UCD School of Information & Communication Studies (the School)

The accreditation-related work of the following programmes offered by the School was a considerable undertaking for the Committee.

- Masters in Library & Information Studies
- Diploma in Library & Information Studies
- BA/BSocSc Information & Library Studies

Committee members carried out in-depth assessments of the modules in the context of the professional competencies identified in the Professional Knowledge and Skills Base. The Committee met with representatives of the UCD School of Information and Communications Studies in both January and October to prepare for the School's quality review and related LAI accreditation. Two Committee members (Kate Kelly and Gillian Kerins) undertook site visits during 7th-8th April and also held a meeting with Dr John Howard, UCD Librarian, on 23rd May.

At the end of October the Committee approved (pending ratification by Council) accreditation of the programmes listed above. The Committee report included commendations, recommendations and a number of conditions. There will be an annual review meeting for School representatives to engage with the Committee and to inform them of relevant developments. The first annual review will be scheduled for June 2017.

B. Review of Dublin Business School's MSc in Information & Library Management.

A review meeting has been scheduled for 5th December with Dublin Business School's academic management team. The Committee will review relevant developments on the DBS's MSc in Information & Library Management (accredited by the Committee in 2014).

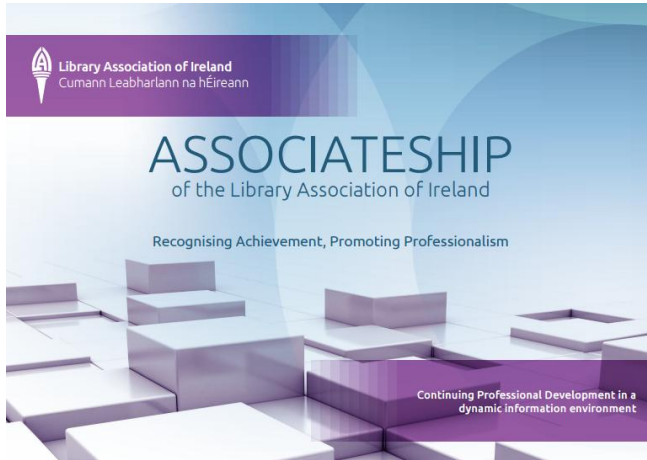
2. Review of the Associateship award (ALAI)

The Committee discussed the award of Associateship (ALAI) and has prepared a Terms of Reference and Scope Note as a framework for the review which is likely to be outsourced. These documents together with a specification of requirements and procurement framework will be brought to a meeting of the Council for ratification in early 2017.

The Committee managed the assessment of candidates for ALAI and FLAI applications during the calendar year. There was one award of Fellowship and eight awards of Associateship.

3. Review of core competencies

The Committee has commenced its review of core competencies required by librarians.



Continuing Professional Development Committee

The CPD Committee conducted much of its business by email. A total of 13 training events were accredited by this means, most organised by the Association's own Groups and Sections but others by external bodies:

- Book Collecting in Ireland and Britain, 1650-1850 (LAI RBG)
- The Changing Nature of Special Collections (LAI RBG)
- LIR Annual Seminar (LIR HEAnet User Group for Libraries)
- PLS Annual Conference (LAI PLS)
- Lead to succeed: a vision for Irish Libraries (LAI CDG)
- Workshop: Research in libraries: Designing a study to demonstrate effectiveness, value or impact (LAI HSLG)
- DBS Annual Library Seminar (DBS)
- CONUL Conference: Going Further Together (CONUL Conference Committee)
- LAI Western Regional Section Annual Seminar, 2016 (WRSLAI)
- Writing for Academic Publication Workshop (Maynooth University Library)

LAI Health Sciences Library Group Annual Conference – incorporating
Bibliometrics Workshop (LAI HSLG)
LAI/CILIP Annual Joint Conference (LAI/CILIP)
A&SL Annual Conference (LAI A&SL)

Committee members met formally once, on 24th November. At this meeting, it was agreed to conduct a Training Needs Analysis amongst Association members and non-members, to organise a presentation and workshop on the Professional Knowledge and Skills Base (PKSB) and to consider providing access to the new PKSB for Health. In addition, it was agreed to review the Committee's Terms of Reference and to devise a work plan for future activities.

Fellowship Awards

Madelaine Dennison, BSocSc, DLIS, MCLIP, FLAI

Head of Library and Research Services, Houses of the Oireachtas

Citation

Madelaine's career demonstrates a strong commitment to public service. Starting in Bray Public Library, she has since worked in areas where the emphasis has been on information and its use for the public good.

There is a comprehensive and continuous record of professional achievement, development and contribution. Her first professional post was in KPMG. Her career path has seen her work in the Office of the Attorney General during which time she contributed to the development of the Irish Statute Book on CD-ROM. It is clear that Madelaine has transformed the Library and Research Service in the Houses of the Oireachtas over the past ten years, and her previous posts illustrate similar innovation and commitment. In each of her positions, Madelaine has raised the profile of the LIS service and expanded the role of the professional librarians.

In addition to the very full documentary submission which speaks for itself, Madeleine has contributed to the development of the profession through her involvement with various associations. –LAI, CILIP and BIALL. On an international level, Madeleine contributes through IFLA, the Interparliamentary Research and Information Network and the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation. She demonstrates impressive professional engagement, authoritative knowledge and personal qualities. She is a worthy recipient of the Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland.

Kate Kelly, BA, PGDipLis, MSc, NLM Fellow, FLAI

Chief Librarian, RSCI

Citation

Kate Kelly's application for Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland is a strong one. She has clearly demonstrated evidence of career progression

having moved from a small library via various public and academic library posts in Ireland and the US with an increasing focus on health information culminating in her current appointment as Chief Librarian, RCSI.

Her career path shows ever increasing responsibility for staff and involvement in the library profession both in Ireland and in the US. In all her roles, she has demonstrated clearly the value of good librarianship.

In her current role she has used her experience to good effect developing a service that embraces both traditional print collections, based on an important historical collection, and a forward-looking electronic service with a strong international focus. In addition she has recently taken on the demanding role of planning new library and learning facilities at the RCSI with the concomitant challenges of restructuring and reimagining spaces.

Kate's commitment to continuing professional development is impressive. She put her time in the US to good use adding certificates in medical informatics and indexing to her UCD library diploma before successfully gaining her MSc in Health Service Research from NUI Galway when she returned to Ireland. Nor is her contribution to the profession in any doubt as evidenced by her work for the Library Association of Ireland, the US Medical Library Association and, most recently, chairmanship of CONUL. Her achievement of Distinguished Member level of accreditation of the US Academy of Health Information Professionals is proof of her contribution to the library profession.

Kate has disseminated her work on resources and strategies for health librarianship, and more recently on-line and open access issues, through numerous presentations and projects over the last twenty-five years. She has also contributed to the profession through the important but often under-appreciated activity of reviewing books and editing the work of others.

Associateship Awards

Cathal Mccauley, BA Mod, MLIS, CDipAF, ALAI

University Librarian, Maynooth University

Citation

Cathal McCauley holds an approved qualification, i.e. MLIS from UCD, awarded in 1997. He has 18 years appropriate post-qualification practical and relevant experience in a number of libraries: Firstly in UCD Library, then in a special library – FGS Consultants – and since 2008 as University Librarian in NUI Maynooth / Maynooth University.

The candidate's Professional Development Report clearly illustrates his long standing active participation in and promotion of CPD for colleagues and staff in his institution. A frequent delegate at short courses and conferences, he is also a regular speaker and guest lecturer on issues facing libraries including library

design, innovation and change management. He is a member and Council member of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI). He is a member, and former Chair, of the Irish Universities Association Librarians' Group (IUALG). Currently Secretary and Treasurer of the Consortium of National and University Libraries in Ireland (CONUL), he is Information Coordinator of the Buildings and Equipment Section Standing Committee of IFLA.

Anne Madden, BA, BSc, HDipLIS, ALAI

Assistant Librarian at St Vincent's Healthcare Group

Citation

Anne Madden has both a strong academic background and a proven track record of making a strong contribution to the library profession. She has been particularly active in the Health Sciences Sector and has taken on responsibility for the CPD area of the Health Sciences Libraries Group. The role involves reporting on CPD activity to the HSLG Committee, identifying CPD needs through surveys and polls, organising CPD events specific to the HSLG group, and organising joint events with the Academic & Special Libraries (A&SL) Section. She is generous in her time commitment to the CPD of colleagues and has led a number of initiatives in this area including TeachMeets, an online Journal Club and a Sheffield University "Folio" online training event in conjunction with A&SL and Sheffield University.

Ann has shown initiative and drive in her library posts and her AHEAD (Access to Higher Education for People with Disabilities) projects. She is actively involved in events in St. Vincent's Hospital, where she is currently employed in the Health Sciences Library. She has presented in-house at events including the Clinical Audit MasterClass, SVHG Journal Club, and at student and intern Induction Days. She has also presented papers at Irish and international conferences. Anne is a committed and highly regarded librarian.

David Meehan, BCL, MLIS, Solicitor, ALAI

Associate Director, Directorate of Special Collections & Archives

Citation

David has the required professional qualifications (Master in Library and Information Studies) and practical experience (over 17 years' experience working in the libraries of DCU and the Mater Dei Institute of Education). Since qualifying in 1998, David has shown great commitment to professional development by presenting at many seminars and conferences, by attending many CPD courses, by writing articles for library journals, and by participating on the committees of LIR, the Acquisitions Group of Ireland and currently the LAI's Rare Books Group.

David's commitment to practice through publications and presentations is also a positive aspect of his development. He is also committed to developing the skills and experience of recent graduates. His investment and promotion of mentoring

and an internship programme at MDI is worthy and important. Further evidence of commitment is his membership of the LAI Career Development Group.

David has significant experience as a librarian and latterly as a library manager; his involvement with the LAI should contribute to maintaining robust professional standards. David is a suitable candidate for Associateship; his continued and growing involvement with the LAI should be further encouraged.



l-r: David Meehan, Philip Cohen (President of the LAI), Cathal McCauley, Anne Madden



l-r: Philip Cohen (President of the LAI) and Kate Kelly

Annual General Meeting 2016

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in Dublin City Libraries, Pearse St., Dublin on 24th March 2016. Philip Cohen, Head of Library Services, Dublin Institute of Technology, was elected as President. Mary Stuart, Offaly County Librarian, was returned as Vice-President, and Marian Higgins, Acting County Librarian, Kildare Library and Arts Service, was elected as Vice-President. Betty Codd, Senior Librarian, Dublin City Public Libraries was returned as Honorary Secretary. Lorna Dodd, Senior Librarian, Maynooth University Library, was elected as Honorary Treasurer. Brendan Martin, County Librarian, Wicklow Public Libraries was returned as Honorary Auditor.

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were adopted. The Honorary Treasurer explained the Accounts for 2015 which had been distributed, and answered questions from the floor. The 2015 Annual Report was considered and adopted.

Following election of the Officers and Council members, President Philip Cohen delivered the following presidential address:

Much has been achieved in the last year:

- *The Association strengthened its links with CILIP, CILIP Ireland, EBLIDA and IFLA*
- *We made formal submissions to the Government's Culture 2025 consultation exercise, the Public Library Strategy Implementation Groups and Copyright Reform Review*
- *The Professional Standards Committee revised criteria for the Fellowship Award and for Internships and began the process of re-accrediting courses at UCD*
- *The CPD Committee awarded certificates for 15 CPD events and began to promote the Professional Knowledge and Skills Base (PKSB)*
- *The Literacies Committee was established to progress the work of the Task Forces on Literacy and Numeracy and Information Literacy*
- *The Communications Committee and the Website Task Force merged, An Leabharlann was issued twice and the new post of Social Media Officer was created*
- *The Presidents of the Library Association of Ireland, 1929-2014, by former President Deirdre Ellis-King, was published in hardcopy*
- *The various Groups and Sections organised numerous conferences, seminars, workshops and other networking events that were delivered throughout Ireland*
- *Countless communications were issued to members via newsletters, podcasts, blog posts and mailing lists*

At last year's AGM, I invited members to join me on a journey, to help develop and grow the Association. In particular, I identified a number of key initiatives: promotion of the PKSB; marketing the Association; liaison and collaboration (nationally and internationally); and a membership drive. Whilst we have advanced the PKSB and our work with others, little progress has been made so far with marketing and the membership drive. So more remains to be done.

The association has no paid employees and relies entirely upon the dedication of its members. There are many, of course, who already work hard on Council, Committees and the Groups and Sections. I thank you all. I also thank two members who volunteered recently for new roles as PKSB Champion and Membership Secretary. But other roles remain for an Assistant Secretary and members of a Marketing Task Force, Library Ireland Week Team and the Joint Conference Committee. You can make a difference. Your contribution will be appreciated. Don't delay. Volunteer today!

Resolutions passed at the meeting for action by the Council

The following motions were passed at the AGM and addressed by Council during the year.

Motion 1

At its meeting on 19th November 2015, Council noted that Route A to Fellowship of the Association via research thesis was anachronistic and difficult to sustain and that there had been no Route A candidate for some considerable time. Consequently, Council agreed to discontinue Route A and have Route B via portfolio and reflective document as the sole route to Fellowship. Details of the Fellowship award are shown at <https://libraryassociation.ie/career/apply-award> Following that change, Council recommends several changes be made to the *Articles of Association* shown at <https://libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/M%26AA%20of%20LAI.pdf>

Article 7.

Subject to such regulations and on payment of such fees as the Council may from time to time prescribe, the Council may issue to any member of any category a certificate. Every such certificate shall, once it has been conferred upon him, be deemed to belong to the member concerned. Every such certificate, if purporting to confer any status or qualification beyond the mere status of membership, either with or without a statement of the class of membership of the member to whom it relates, shall contain on its face a statement to the effect that it is not under or by virtue of any statutory or Government sanction or authority, but by the authority of the Association only.

Fellows shall be personal members who hold a recognised professional qualification in librarianship, and who have satisfied the agreed criteria for fellowship. are elected to Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland. The

authorised titles of Fellows shall be Comhalta de Chumann Leabharlann na hÉireann (CCLÉ), or, Fellow of the Library Association of Ireland (FLAI).

Associates shall be personal members who hold a recognised qualification in librarianship and/or information work that has been recognised by the Association and who have subsequently satisfied criteria laid down by the Association for professional recognition. The authorised titles of Associates shall be: Comhlachas de Chumann Leabharlann na hÉireann (CCLÉ), or Associate of the Library Association of Ireland (ALAI).

This article is broad and does not require any amendment as a result of changes to the Fellowship process. But an error has been noted in the wording of Paragraph 2, Sentences 1 and 2 (highlighted yellow). Consequently, Council recommends these 2 sentences be deleted and replaced with the single sentence below:

Personal members who hold a recognised professional qualification in librarianship, and who have satisfied the agreed criteria for Fellowship, may be elected to Fellowship of the Library Association.

Articles 38., 39. and 40.

These articles are rendered redundant by the changes to the award of Fellowship and Council recommends that they be deleted in their entirety:

Article 38. The Council may at any time cause examinations to be held, and/or prescribe the preparation of a thesis, bibliographical work or other project, for the purpose of testing the qualifications of candidates for Fellowship. The Council shall define the entry requirements for candidates and the subjects to be comprised in such examinations or thesis, and shall from time to time fix the fees to be paid or deposited by the candidates.

Article 39. The Council may at any time cause examinations to be held for the purpose of testing the proficiency and knowledge of librarianship of persons who so desire. The Council may grant certificates on the results of such examinations, and shall from time to time fix the fees to be paid or deposited in respect thereof, provided that such certificates shall contain on the face a statement to the effect as set forth in Article 7.

Article 40. The Council shall be empowered, subject to Clause 4 of the Memorandum, to remunerate the examiners and tutors appointed under the three preceding Articles out of the general funds of the Association.

Article 68.

The second sentence of this article (highlighted yellow) is redundant and Council recommends that sentence be deleted:

Article 68. The publication of all statements and reports of the Association shall be reserved to the Council. In the case of works submitted as part of the examination or testing of candidates for admission to Fellowship of the Association, the Council shall reserve to itself the right of decision as to whether such work shall be published by or on behalf of the Association or otherwise.

Renumbering

If all the changes outlined above be approved, then it will be necessary to renumber all the remaining articles from **Article 37.** onwards.

Proposed by Council.

Proposed Action: Referred to the Professional Standards Committee for action.

Motion 2

A review of the public library service - *Managing the delivery of effective library services* - was published in September 2014. This review outlined the reform of the management and service delivery structures of Public Libraries. It also set out a *National Workforce Plan* for public libraries which supersedes existing plans.

This meeting notes that a number of County/City Librarian posts are currently vacant and, whilst it welcomes the recent advertisement for 4 County Librarian posts, it calls on the relevant local authorities and on the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government to advertise and fill all the vacant County/City Librarian posts countrywide as a positive step in the process to fill further vacant library posts throughout the public library service.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section

Proposed Action: Referred to the County and City Librarians Section for action.

Motion 3

Over the last 7 years stock funds in public libraries have faced budget cuts of up to 50% and this has seriously impacted on the quality of public library collections. The Association calls on the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government to encourage local authorities to work towards a per capita stock fund target of €3.77 as proposed in the Public Library Strategy: Opportunities for all 2013-2017.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section.

Proposed Action: Referred to the County and City Librarians Section for action.



AGM 2016, Pearse Street Library and Archive

Communications

Communications and Website Committee

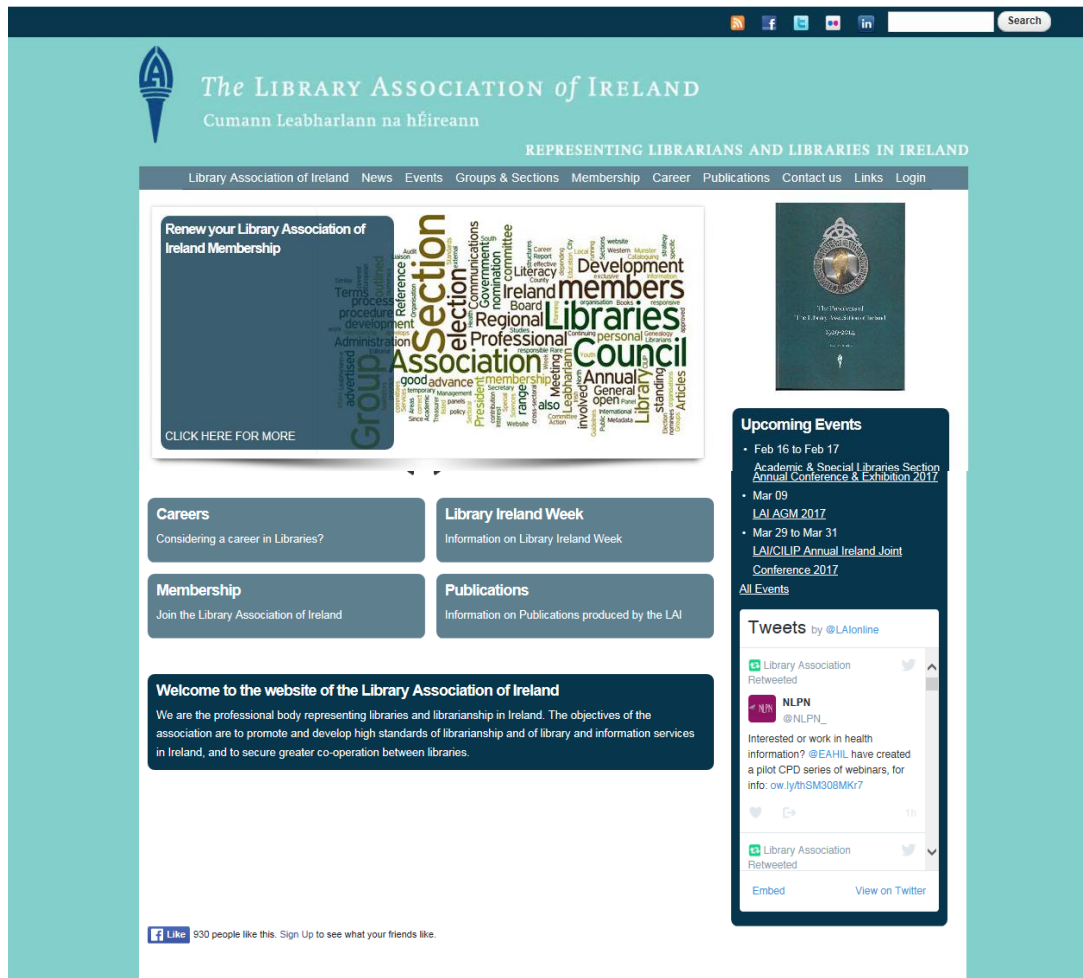
Members: Mary Stuart (Convenor, Offaly County Council), Bernadette Fennell (Louth County Council), Fionnuala Hanrahan, Marian Higgins (Kildare County Council), Gillian Kerins (Institute of Technology Tallaght), Zoë Melling (Legal Aid Board), Emer O'Brien (Tipperary Libraries), Shona Thoma (Irish Research eLibrary), Sandra Turner (Offaly County Council), Joan Ward (Libraries Development, Local Government Management Agency).

The Communications and Website Committee met on 8th July 2016 in Dublin, and revised terms of reference and Social Media Guidelines were approved by Council on 22nd September and uploaded to the LAI website. It was agreed that a webmaster/website officer would be appointed and a list of tasks and procedures for the role was drawn up, including support, maintenance and development of the website, administration of the LAI listservs and email addresses, and investigation into options for integrating the different communication platforms with the website. Currently there is no link between the website membership module and the listserv platform. The LAI email list was updated to include all current members, and new email lists were set up for groups/sections.

Recent enhancements to the website include Twitter block functionality within the group/section pages and a fourth level in the hierarchy for the drop down links in the main menu. Features in development include a frequently asked questions

section, a centralised payments system and streamlining of the process for becoming a member.

The Committee wishes to acknowledge the continued support of Luis Rodriguez Castromil and his colleagues at Iterate, and the tireless work carried out by Shona Thoma since her appointment as Social Media Officer.



Library Association of Ireland Website

Publications

An Leabharlann: the Irish Library, 2 issues: Vol. 25(1) and (2). ISSN: 2009-6062. ***An Leabharlann*** is now published in online electronic format only.

HINT: [Health Information News and Thinking - electronic newsletter of the Health Sciences Libraries Section] Three editions published electronically in 2016.

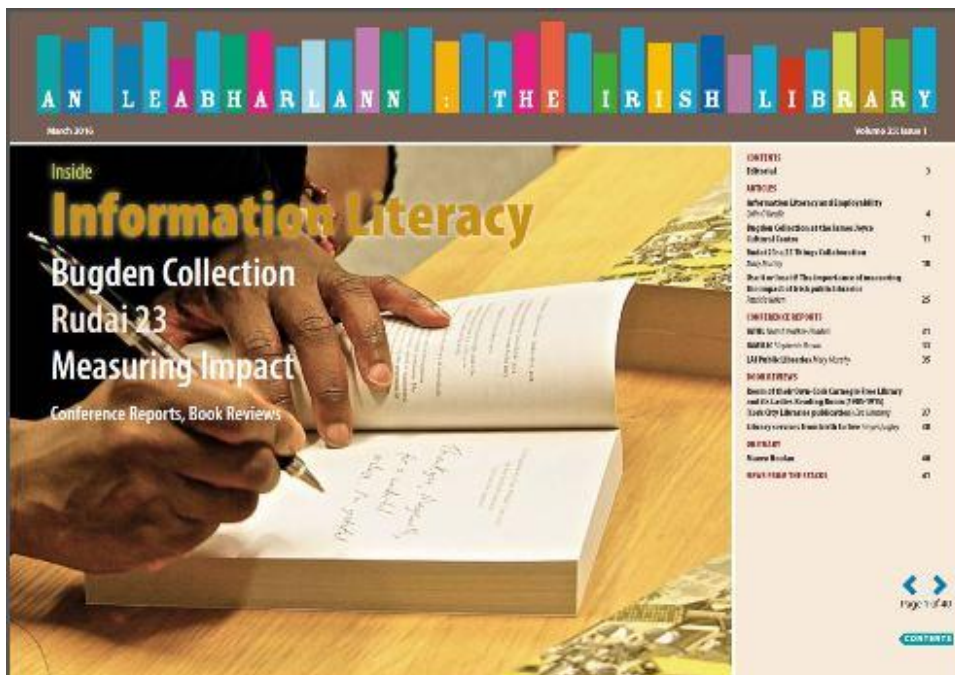
Leabharlann-e: published electronically, April, May, June, July, August, September, October 2016 [electronic newsletter of the Council]

Annual Report 2015: Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2015, ISSN 0791-6248

Library Ireland Week: Promotional material.



An Leabharlann Volume 25: Issue 2 October 2016



An Leabharlann Volume 25: Issue 1 March 2016

Management and Administration

Administration Committee

The function of the Administration Committee is to manage the finances and administrative procedures of the Association. The committee met once in 2016 on 22nd September, and otherwise conducted its business by telephone and email throughout the year.

On 26th May, 2016 a meeting was held with the Officers of the Groups and Sections. The Audit Committee did not meet.

Action Plan, 2013 - 2016

<https://libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/LAI%20ACTION%20PLAN%20Final%20Version%20240713.pdf>

The Action Plan identified 6 main areas of activity: Maintaining professional standards, Advocating for the profession, Collaborating with other associations and bodies, Promoting the free flow of information, Supporting CPD and career development, Enhancing engagement between the Association, its members and potential members. These were to be advanced through 16 specific actions e.g. accreditation of Third Level courses and CPD activities, development and delivery of a Communications plan. The majority of the actions have been completed, in whole or in part. Others, however, have stalled because of pressures of work elsewhere. The plan is due further review and update in the year ahead

Members of Council Task Forces, Working Groups, Panels and Committees

[Note: only the places of employment of members who are not on the Council are listed here. Information about Council members is listed at the front of the report.]

Administration Committee: Philip Cohen [Convenor], Betty Codd, Lorna Dodd, Catherine Gallagher, Marian Higgins, Mary Stuart

Audit Committee: Philip Cohen [Convenor], Lorna Dodd, Brendan Martin [Hon. Auditor]

Communications and Website Committee (Strategy, Policy, Procedures, Website):

Mary Stuart (Convenor), Bernadette Fennell (Louth County Libraries), Fionnuala Hanrahan (Retired, Wexford County Libraries), Gillian Kerins (ITT), Zoë Melling,

Emer O'Brien, Shona Thoma (Irish Research eLibrary), Sandra Turner (Offaly County Library Service), Joan Ward

Continuing Professional Development Committee: Philip Cohen (Convenor), Sarah Connolly (IMI), Deirdre Ellis King (UCD SILS/Retired, DCPL), Eva Hornung (CDETB Curriculum Development Unit, TCD), Sheila Kelly (DCPL), Gillian Kerins (ITT), Jessie Kurtz (UCD), Lai Ma, Ann Mitchell (NUI Galway), Mary Murphy, Kathryn Smith

Editorial Board of An Leabharlann: the Irish Library: Marjory Sliney (Editor), Heather Anderson (CILIP Ireland), Helen Fallon (NUI Maynooth), Kate Kelly (RCSI), Terry O'Brien (WIT), Brendan Teeling (DCPL)

European and International Panel: Zoë Melling (Convenor), Jenny Aston (LBI), Joseph Donnelly (Judges' Library), Ann O'Sullivan (A&L Goodbody)

Library Ireland Week Task Force for 2016: Catherine Gallagher (Convenor), Johanna Archbold (RSCI), Betty Codd, Philip Cohen, Melanie Cunningham, Marian Higgins, Lai Ma, Eimear McGinn (Kildare Library and Arts Service), Eileen Morrissey, Samantha Morrissey (Clare County Library Service), Kathryn Smith, Shona Thoma (Irish Research eLibrary)

North-South Liaison Committee/Annual Joint Conference Committee: Adrienne Adair (CILIP Ireland), Gerardine Blee (CILIP Ireland), Philip Cohen (Convenor), Betty Codd, Melanie Cunningham, Lorna Dodd, Ann Fitzgerald (Kerry Libraries), Catherine Gallagher, Margaret Hayes, Marian Higgins, Tommy O'Connor (Kerry Libraries), Marjory Sliney (Retired, Fingal County Libraries), Mary Stuart

Professional Standards Committee: Siobhán Fitzpatrick (Convenor) (RIA), Philip Cohen, Madelaine Dennison (Houses of the Oireachtas), Deirdre Ellis-King (Retired, DCPL); Kate Kelly (RCSI), Gillian Kerins (ITT), Cathal McCauley, Eileen Morrissey, Marjory Sliney (Retired, Fingal County Libraries)

Literacies Committee: Philip Russell (Convenor) (ITT), Brenda Carey (Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown libraries), Melanie Cunningham, Lorna Dodd, Siobhán Dunne (TCD), Catherine Gallagher, Laura Joyce (South Dublin Libraries), Claire McGuinness (UCD), Emer O'Brien, Ann O'Sullivan (A&L Goodbody), Katherine Ryan (St. Andrew's College Dublin), Muireann Tóibín (Revenue Commissioners), Joan Ward

Library & Information Services: Developing and Promoting High Standards

Copyright

EU Copyright Reform

In September 2016 the European Commission launched a series of legislative proposals aimed at modernising copyright, including a Directive and a Regulation on Copyright in the Digital Single Market, and a Directive and Regulation on the implementation of the Marrakesh treaty for people with print disabilities. A joint statement on behalf of libraries/heritage institutions was issued by EBLIDA, Europeana, LIBER, Public Libraries 2020 and IFLA, along with a draft template for member Associations to respond at a national level. The statement raised a number of concerns in relation to insufficient copyright exceptions for research and cultural purposes, e-lending, remote access to library resources through closed networks, and cross-border collaboration. The DJEI invited submissions in advance of EU discussions on the proposals, and the LAI responded in December 2016 with reference to the joint statement.

Library Ireland Week 2016

Convenor: Catherine Gallagher

Committee Members: Melanie Cunningham, Eileen Morrissey, Samantha Morrissey, Kathryn Smith, Shona Thoma, Betty Codd, Eimear McGinn, Johanna Archbold, Marian Higgins, Philip Cohen

Library Ireland Week took place from **28th November to 4th December 2016**.

The theme of this year's Library Ireland Week was '***Libraries: empowering through online access***', and the focus was on the incredible range of online resources available in Irish libraries, and which can be accessed anytime, anywhere and at the flick of fingertip.



Library Ireland Week 2016 Poster

The timing of Library Ireland Week 2016 was changed to allow for a pre-Christmas promotion of library services. Preparation for the week included poster design, preparing guidelines on work swaps, developing a social media calendar, poster printing and distribution, coordinating events, a launch, and applying to RTÉ for the Supporting the Arts funding.

RTÉ Supporting the Arts funding - An application was made for the second year in a row for RTÉ Supporting the Arts funding. Confirmation was received on 11th November of 100% support on RTÉ Radio 1, Lyric fm, on TV and on social media. A short TV promo was developed and shared from RTÉ social media platforms.

The most successful element of the sponsorship was the ability to develop a radio promo with RTÉ. The LIW committee gave its input into this process and the final script read as follows:

“Did you know that libraries have moved beyond walls and opened up a whole new world online.....

...with a simple tap, flip or click, you can access fantastic library treasures like research, the potential for learning, personal development, entertainment, and lots of other resources.

Why not start during Library Ireland Week... November 28th to December 4th.

Organised by the Library Association of Ireland

Libraries – empowering through online access

Visit libraryirelandweek.ie for details.

RTÉ Supporting the Arts”

The ad received excellent exposure. It was broadcast thirty times during the week, and very good feedback was received from the public.

Launch - Library Ireland Week was launched in the National Library. The photo of the launch was distributed to press channels, and was featured in Public Sector News.



Della Keating, National Library of Ireland, at the launch of Library Ireland Week 2016

SirsiDynix also gave permission for use of their Together We Connect video, which is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6m1rTDiqlI>

The video linked with some of the LIW themes of online access and empowering communities.

Events - The week was also supported by an events programme in libraries, highlighting the wide array of digital resources and services available in the library sector, including online courses, language learning, health information, business resources, e-magazines, digital images, and so on.

Snippets - Continuing from last year, we asked for snippets of information expressed in one line of text to showcase the depth and variety of services offered by Irish libraries and information services, e.g. did you know that you can access over 260 e-magazines for free in your local library, including Cosmopolitan, Gardener's World and Total Film?

Library Staff Exchange Scheme – We were keen to promote work shadowing/staff exchanges/job swap schemes between libraries during Library Ireland Week. These schemes provide library staff with development opportunities, with the chance to experience how other libraries operate, and to learn about different kinds of library services and users.

For 2016, we developed a set of guidelines and sought feedback on how the scheme had operated. As in previous years a successful exchange programme took place between Maynooth University Library and Kildare Public Library Service.

For further reading on this topic, the experiences of six Library Assistants in Maynooth University Library are described in this SCONUL Focus article – [The Library Ireland Week \(LIW\) job swap initiative Experiences from Maynooth University Library](#).

Social Media: Following feedback from 2015, we reverted to offering a prize on social media to people willing to 'like and share' Library Ireland Week. The prize offered was an iPad Air 2 WiFi + 4G | 128GB. The winner was Geraldine Fitzpatrick, a library user based in Sligo, who was delighted with her prize.

A social media calendar was also developed and delivered by Shona Thoma, Samantha Morrissey and Johanna Archbold. The calendar encouraged participation, and the social media presence was very active over the week and significantly increased the visibility of both Library Ireland Week and the Library Association as a whole.

On Facebook, there were 500 new likes over the week, and 54,578 people were reached.

There was lively interaction on posts with positive comments on online services available through libraries.

Social media overview

- 7,016 post engagements - the number of times people engaged with LIW posts through likes, comments and shares
- Twitter account - 893 followers
- Lots of use of #liw16 hashtag over the week.
- Many mentions, retweets and likes - lots of engagement and activity.
- Loads of great online resources being shared on Twitter for [#liw16](#)

There was an attempt made to get LIW trending between 12 and 4pm on Thursday 1st December. This was our first effort to get LIW trending.

In conclusion, all of these initiatives can be built on in 2017. Another recommendation for future years is to continue applying for RTÉ STA funding, but also to consider other publicity measures such as looking for a supplement in a national paper. High level sponsorship would be required for this and the application would have to be initiated at an early stage. This is used successfully with schemes such as Art in the Community, etc., and could help to build on the impact of Library Ireland Week.

Thanks are due to all the committee members for their hard work on delivering Library Ireland Week. Roll on 2017!

<h2 style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY IRELAND WEEK</h2> <p>The National Library of Ireland's collection of Catholic parish register microfilms contain over 3500 registers and are available online as 373,000 digital images. The registers contain records of baptisms and marriages from the majority of Catholic parishes in Ireland and Northern Ireland up to 1880.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EMPOWERING THROUGH ONLINE ACCESS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">#liw16</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY IRELAND WEEK</h2> <p>Universal Class offers a wide range of over 500 courses, including Yoga, Digital Photography, Computer Basics, Excel, and Accounting & Bookkeeping. It allows you to learn in your own time, at your own pace, with expert instructors giving continual feedback. Please register for this service by using your library barcode and by completing the registration form.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EMPOWERING THROUGH ONLINE ACCESS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">#liw16</p>
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Library Ireland Week 2016

Literacies Committee

Members of the Literacies Committee

Philip Russell [Convenor] (Institute of Technology Tallaght, Dublin)
Claire McGuinness (UCD, Dublin)
Katherine Ryan (St. Andrew's College Dublin)
Muireann Tóibín (Revenue Commissioners, Dublin)
Brenda Carey (Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown libraries)
Ann O'Sullivan (AL Goodbody)
Emer O'Brien (Tipperary County Council)
Laura Joyce and Catherine Gallagher (South Dublin Libraries)
Joan Ward, Libraries Development Unit of the LGMA (Local Government Management Agency)
Siobhan Dunne (Trinity College Dublin)
Melanie Cunningham (Waterford City Libraries)
Lorna Dodd (Maynooth University Library)

The Literacies Committee met three times this year in January, May and November. The Committee is a newly-established merger between two Association Task Forces: Literacy & Numeracy and Information Literacy. Its members are drawn from libraries and information services in all sectors. The merger recognises the interconnected nature of different literacies and the need to address their related issues in a holistic manner. Similarly, the upgrading to a Committee acknowledges the centrality of literacy support to the work of the Association.

At a meeting in January 2016, members came up with a new name for the merged group (Literacies Committee) and drew up revised terms of reference which was approved by the LAI Executive Board. The Committee is charged with reviewing and collating best practice initiatives in relation to literacy, information literacy and digital literacy across library and information service sectors in Ireland and will foster a collaborative and cross-sectoral approach in terms of developing literacies across all sectors of the profession. The group will also put forward an action plan for the development of these competencies at local and national level. The Committee will engage in ongoing advocacy, promotion and dissemination activities in relation to local, national and international activities, helping to raise national awareness of the strategic value of these skills and promote integration into education, the work place and wider society.

The Literacies Committee had its official launch at the LILAC (Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference) in UCD in March 2016 where members of the Committee (Philip, Claire & Jane) presented a short paper outlining the work of the group, identifying some of the key challenges and the future directions. Participation at this renowned international conference (other

members of the Committee were also in attendance) has raised the profile of the Committee, highlighting the work of the group as it advances the goal of an integrated national strategy for these key competencies.



l-r: Philip Russell (IT Tallaght Library & Convenor of the Literacies Committee) & James Molloy (UCD Library & Local Organiser of the LILAC Conference) at the LILAC Conference, UCD, March 2016.

In June 2016, the Literacies Committee submitted, on behalf of the Library Association of Ireland, a 23 page document to the Department of Education as part of the consultation process for the new Strategy and Action Plan for Education 2016-2019. The Library Association of Ireland welcomed this opportunity to contribute to this important consultation exercise. In sharing their vision and experience, the Association contributed to a collaborative process for advancing the education strategy for Ireland particularly in terms of progressing the literacy and numeracy agenda. The Literacies Committee met in November 2016 to review the Action Plan for Education (which was launched in September) and discuss membership / possible partnerships as we seek to advance our agenda in 2017.

Submissions

The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation invited submissions in advance of EU discussions on legislative proposals aimed at modernising copyright, and the LAI responded in December 2016 with reference to the joint statement issued by EBLIDA, Europeana, LIBER, Public Libraries 2020 and IFLA.

The LAI Literacies Committee made a submission in June 2016 to the Department of Education as part of the consultation process for the new Strategy and *Action Plan for Education 2016-2019*.

Supporting Co-operation between Library & Information Services

European and international Panel

Members: Zoë Melling (Convenor), Jennefer Aston, Joseph Donnelly, Ann O'Sullivan.

Marjory Sliney stepped down from the panel in January 2016 and Ann O'Sullivan was appointed to expand the panel's coverage of IFLA matters. The panel met in June 2016 to discuss terms of reference and priorities for the year.

European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA)

Zoë Melling was invited to attend the Library Advocacy 4 EU event in Brussels in February 2016, which was jointly organised by EBLIDA and the Library Association of Latvia (LBB) and funded by the Public Libraries 2020 programme. The event was attended by 29 library association representatives who worked together to develop advocacy tools. A follow-up survey on non-formal and informal learning activities in public libraries across Europe was circulated in July 2016 and distributed to LAI members.

Council/Conference

Zoë Melling attended the EBLIDA/NAPLE conference and EBLIDA Council meeting in The Hague, Netherlands, on 9-10 May 2016. The conference theme was "Empowering Europe! Libraries Opening up New Perspectives", and it included sessions on advocacy for libraries, civic participation, skills and lifelong learning, open access, e-lending and copyright. A full report is available on the LAI website.

Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)

The Association is represented on the Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL) by Joseph Donnelly (Judge's Library).

IFLA World Library and Information Congress

The World Library and Information Congress was held in Columbus, Ohio, from 13–19 August 2016. LAI President Philip Cohen attended along with Council members Eileen Morrissey and Cathal McCauley, and an Irish national caucus meeting took place with five attendees. A conference report was published in the October 2016 issue of *An Leabharlann*.

BLUE SHIELD

Committee representation:

CCAAA (The Co-ordinating Council of Audio-visual Archives Associations):

Kas O'Connell

International Council of Archives (ICA): Helen Hewson & Kas O'Connell

International Council of Museums (ICOM-Ireland): Lar Joye (Chair)

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS): Deirdre

McDermott (Secretary) and Cathy Daly

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA): Siobhán Fitzpatrick & Colette O’Flaherty.

One of the main objectives of the Irish National Committee of the Blue Shield is the ratification by Ireland of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Hague Convention). We are pleased to report that a bill to give effect to the Hague Convention (1954) and its Protocol of 1999, has now been through the first and second stages (Dáil and Seanad) and has been referred to a select committee. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Charles Flanagan, T.D., addressed the Seanad at its reading of the bill on 27 October 2016 —

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/seanad2016102700002?opendocument#W00800>

Library Co-operation - North–South Liaison Committee with CILIP Ireland

The Committee met just once, on 24th November. Much of the discussion centred on organisation of the Annual Joint Conference 2017. Marjory Sliney, the editor of An Leabharlann, reported on its continued success, welcoming submissions from both CILIP and LAI members. Members agreed to co-ordinate the LAI Library Ireland Week and the CILIP Libraries Week, to take place on 9th-14th October 2017. It was also agreed that CILIP will support an LAI bid for the IFLA Conference in 2021, as an event encompassing the whole island of Ireland.

Annual Joint Conference 2016

The Library Association of Ireland and CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference and Exhibition took place from 13th to 15th April 2015 in the Malton Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

The conference, which was hosted by Kerry County Council, was organised by the North-South Liaison Committee and the Joint Conference Organising Committee, and was formally opened by Nick Poole, CILIP CEO and Philip Cohen, President of the LAI.

The theme of the conference was “Survive and Thrive: Strategies for Success”, and more than 100 delegates attended over two days to enjoy a range of high profile speakers addressing a diverse range of topics from strategic planning to advocacy, and from marketing to getting published.

The packed programme of talks included:

- **Bridging the Gap: Strategic Challenges for the Library and Information Profession** – Nick Poole, CILIP Chief Executive
- **Libraries Enabling Open Science: LIBER Strategy and Advocacy** – Susan Reilly, Executive Director of LIBER
- **Successful Strategies, Strategic Shaping** – Helen Osborn, Director of Library Services, Libraries NI

- **Culture 2025: The National Cultural Policy** – Colm Lundberg, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
- **Libraries and Sustainable Communities** – David Dalton, Department of Environment, Culture and Local Government
- **The Library of the Future; The Future of the Library: Developing the Strategic Direction for the Library of Trinity College Dublin** – Helen Shenton, Librarian and College Archivist of Trinity College Dublin
- **Worcester Hive: Joint Use Public and Academic Library** – Judith Keene and Kathy Kirk

Workshops included

- How to Get Published
- CPD session: ALAI/FLAI and MCLIP/FCLIP
- CPD: PKSB
- Libraries and Librarians: Making a Visible Impact
- The Decade of Commemorations
- 'Presidents of the Library Association of Ireland, 1929 – 2014'
- Open Libraries
- The Shared Library Management System
- Carnegie Library Lab

and lightening sessions by trade exhibitors, highlighting their products.

Local man and gifted storyteller Billy Keane gave a memorable after-dinner speech on Thursday evening.



l-r: Philip Cohen, President of the LAI, and Tommy O'Connor, Kerry County Librarian



Delegates visit to Killarney Library during the Annual Joint Conference

Attendance at Conferences

EBLIDA/NAPLE Annual Conference, The Hague, Netherlands, May 2016: *Zoë Melling*

Library Advocacy 4 EU event, Brussels, Belgium, February 2016: *Zoë Melling*

IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2016, Columbus, Ohio, August 2016: *Philip Cohen, Eileen Morrissey, Cathal McCauley*

Attendance by President at other events 2016

13 th January	A&SL and HSLG Networking Event, Dublin
28 th January	Launch of the book 'Presidents of the LAI', Dublin
27 th February	WRS LAI Rudai 23 Graduation, Galway
22 nd March	LILAC Conference, Presentation of the Annual IL Award, Dublin
12 th May	Munster Region AGM, Mallow
14 th -19 th August	IFLA WLIC (including Irish Caucus meeting), Columbus, Ohio
20 th October	Launch of the Special Edition of the 'New Review of Academic Librarianship, Maynooth
2 nd November	Library of Congress Summit of the Book, Limerick
9 th -10 th November	PLS Annual Conference, Waterford
22 nd November	Launch of Library Ireland Week, Dublin
23 rd November	CMG AGM, Dublin
25 th November	RBG Annual Seminar, Dublin
30 th November	Irish Government Open Governance Data Board, Dublin

Nominees and Members of Committees of External Bodies with which the Association is engaged

- European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA): *Zoë Melling*
- ■■ EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law: *Joe Donnelly*
- IFLA Library Buildings and Equipment Section: *Cathal McCauley*
- Irish Committee of the Blue Shield: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Colette O'Flaherty.*

Groups and Sections

Academic & Special Libraries Section (A&SL)

Committee Officers and Members 2016

Chairperson: Dr. Eva Hornung (CDET B Curriculum Development Unit/TCD)

Hon. Secretary: Caitríona Honohan (Trinity College Dublin)

Hon. Treasurer: Laoise Doherty (Royal Irish Academy of Music)

Membership Officer: Marie G. Cullen (Maynooth University)

Communications Officer: Laura Rooney-Ferris (Irish Hospice Foundation)

Committee Members:

Lorraine Curran (Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology)

Seán Hughes (Trinity College Dublin)

Tom Maher (University College Dublin)

Deirdre McGuinness (William Fry)

Erin O'Mahony (Houses of the Oireachtas)

Niamh O'Sullivan (Irish Blood Transfusion Service)

Maria Rogers (Barnardos Ireland)

Overview

2016 has been another very busy year for the Academic & Special Libraries Section Committee. We organised several events which were very successful in attracting high attendances and interest. The Annual Conference & Exhibition held in February 2016 attracted a very high attendance from delegates and a high level of interest from companies and organisations sponsoring the conference. The entire Committee worked very hard on the organisation of the conference. Particular appreciation goes to the 2016 Conference Project Managers - Erin O'Mahony and Laoise Doherty.

Committee meetings and membership

The Committee met on 12 occasions in 2016. This included 10 Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting in June and a strategic planning meeting in July to plan the year ahead.

A&SL Section events for 2016

The Annual (Post) Christmas Networking Evening was held on January 13th 2016 in the Royal Irish Academy, Dawson St, Dublin, co-hosted by the HSLG. Over 50 people attended the event, and €130 was collected for Focus Ireland.

The guest speaker was Dr. Sandra Collins, Director of the National Library of Ireland, who gave a very engaging presentation on the National Library's connection to 1916 and its 2016 programme of activities. The presentation was followed by drinks and canapes.

The Academic & Special Libraries Section 2016 Annual Conference & Exhibition took place on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th February 2016 at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8. The theme of the Conference was Smashing Stereotypes: Librarians get loud!

The Keynote Speakers were Dr. Sandra Collins, Director, National Library of Ireland, Jan Parry, HonFCLIP, Immediate Past President, CILIP and Alison Macrina, Founder and Director of the Library Freedom Project.

The Committee once again awarded bursaries for full delegate attendance to A&SL Section's Annual Conference & Exhibition 2016. Celine Campbell (Dublin City University Library) and Saoirse Reynolds (Maynooth University Library) were the winners of the sponsored places. The bursaries cover the cost of the conference delegate fee (including meals) plus travel costs up to a maximum of €100.00. Each bursary winner provided a conference review.

The 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Academic & Special Libraries (A&SL) took place on Thursday 16th June at the Royal Irish Academy, Dawson Street, Dublin 2 from 6 p.m, followed by refreshments. The guest speaker was Aoife Lawton, author of "The Invisible Librarian: A Librarian's Guide to Increasing Visibility and Impact." She gave a very interesting presentation, followed by a quiz, which was enjoyed by all.

The A&SL Summer Networking event - Visit to the dlr LexIcon took place on July 7th 2016. The visit included a tour of the library which took just over an hour, after which there was an opportunity to network and socialise locally. The event was very well-attended.

The A&SL Committee hosted a Cryptoparty - online privacy and digital security training on August 6th -7th 2016. There were two consecutive workshops with the aim of introducing the basics of practical online security and data protection. It was a free event held at Dublin Business School, and was booked out. Topics covered included concepts in encryption, the role of librarians in online privacy, browser plugins and password best practices. There was also a hands-on session exploring tools and practices, threat modelling, TOR Browser, data and communication encryption.

The A&SL Film Event for Library Ireland Week: *The Safe House: A Decline of Ideas* took place on Saturday 3rd December at University College Dublin Cinema. This was the Irish premiere of the film, which was written and directed by Greta Bellamacina & Davina Catt. This documentary explores the heritage

and significance of the British Public Library, and documents its dramatic decline in recent years. There was a Q&A session after the screening with the filmmaker.

For further details about all A&SL events go to <http://www.aslibraries.com/>



The group enjoys the sun at the A&SL Summer Networking event - Visit to the dlr Lexicon

Other highlights of 2016

The A&SL 'Librarians Aloud' podcast series now consists of eleven episodes, featuring librarians talking about their career paths, what they love about the profession and where the information profession is going. Special thanks to Laura Rooney-Ferris for this series. The podcasts can be accessed here: <http://www.aslibraries.com/#!/librarians-aloud-podcast/cj6y>

Episode 1 - October 2015 - Jane Burns

Episode 2 - November 2015 - Tom Maher & Mick O' Dwyer, The Forgotten Zine Archive

Episode 3 - December 2015 - Niamh O Donovan & Stephanie Ronan, Rudai23

Episode 4 - January 2016 - Aoife Lawton, Systems Librarian, HSE & Author of 'The Invisible Librarian'

Episode 5 - April 2016 - Marie O Neill, Head Librarian, Dublin Business School

Episode 6 - Bonus episode May 2016 - Jan Parry, former CILIP president

Episode 7 - Ian Clark @ijclark Talks to Tom Maher

Episode 8 - David Hughes - Systems Librarian, Dublin Business School

Episode 9 - Siobhan Britton @wigglymittens Talks to Tom Maher

Episode 10 - Ann O Sullivan @annieosullivan, Knowledge Services Manager, A&L Goodbody

Episode 11 - Louise Farragher @farragher, Information Specialist, Health Research Board

The Committee continues to offer A&SL National & International Library Conference Bursaries, giving members the opportunity to attend major international library conferences as part of their CPD. The 2016 winners were Jane Burns (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland), Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education Library) and Isabel Fleischmann (Dublin Dental University Hospital Library). Jane attended the Transatlantic Connections Conference in Donegal (13-16 Jan 2016) where she gave a paper on the "Mary Martin Diary: a mother's story of 1916." The second bursary was shared by Genevieve and Isabel who attended LILAC 2016 in Dublin in March.

The A&SL section supported the LAI Career Development Group on Library Camp Ireland 2016, which took place at Dublin Business School on Saturday 21st May 2016.

The A&SL section sponsored prizes for the speakers at the New Professionals Day Ireland event "The first rung on the ladder" at Maynooth University Library on Saturday 19th November 2016.

Committee Members attended the following events during 2016:

Eva Hornung, Laoise Doherty and Caitríona Honohan attended the Meeting of the LAI Executive Council in May 2016 with officers of all Groups and Sections.

Niamh O'Sullivan and Laura Rooney-Ferris attended the Dublin Business School Library Annual Seminar in June 2016.

Deirdre McGuinness attended the BIALL Conference in June 2016.

Laura Rooney-Ferris and Marie Cullen presented at the CONUL Conference in June 2016.

Marie Cullen and Caitríona Honohan attended the LAI Cataloguing and Metadata Group's LCSH and FAST Training in May 2016.

Maria Rogers pitched at Library Camp Ireland in May 2016, attended also by Deirdre McGuinness, Laura Rooney-Ferris, Niamh O'Sullivan, Caitríona Honohan, Marie Cullen and Tom Maher. Niamh O'Sullivan and Laura Rooney-Ferris were part of the winning team for the LibCamp quiz, winning a golden ticket as a prize to attend the Career Development Group Seminar and AGM in collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Library: "Lead to Succeed: a vision for Irish libraries" on 14th October 2016.

Communications

Members can join our emailing list by sending an e-mail to asl-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie

Members can post to the list by sending an e-mail to asl@lists.libraryassociation.ie

Websites

<http://www.aslibraries.com/>

<http://www.libraryassociation.ie/groups-sections/academic-and-special-libraries-section-asl>

Social media

Twitter @ASLIBRARIES

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ASLIBRARIES>

LinkedIn: Academic & Special Libraries Section of the Library Association of Ireland

Joining the A&SL Section of the LAI

To join the A&SL Section, select A&SL when renewing your LAI membership



Delegates view the Poster Presentations at the Academic & Special Libraries 2016 Annual Conference and Exhibition

Career Development Group (CDG)

The Career Development Group (CDG) functions within the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) to cater for the needs of both existing library and information professionals and those newly graduated looking for job opportunities. The committee is drawn from members of the group.

Overview

Our goals for 2016 were:

1. To organise more events, workshops & networking opportunities for the Library and information professional community.
2. To support professional development planning centred on the CILIP/ LAI Professional Knowledge and Skills Base tool PKSB.
3. To investigate mentoring/support opportunities for those entering the profession.

The Committee met on 12 occasions between November 2015 and October 2016. This included 11 committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting on the 14th Oct 2016. Committee members also attended Council meetings.

The CDG ran five successful events which allowed members and those joining the profession to network, discuss and develop crucial awareness of key skills and issues in librarianship informed by best practice framework for professional development (PKSB), and supported by collaboration with other groups within and outside of the LAI:

- Rare Books Group - Future of Special Collections Seminar
- Academic & Special Libraries Group - LibCamp 2016
- Dublin Business School - LibCamp 2016
- *An Leabharlann* - joint publication of CILIP/LAI – Upload into E-Deposit Ireland
- RCSI Library - Leadership seminar & AGM
- National Gallery of Ireland - “Publish to Flourish” event
- LARK (Library Applied Research Kollektive Australia) – #EBLIPRG twitter chat

Policies and Procedures

The Group updated Policies & Procedures to expand on roles and define terms for officerships (with a maximum term of 3 years and a minimum term of 2 years for officers) and changes were discussed & voted on at the AGM.

- After our last AGM in 2015 the CDG expanded our committee numbers from 5 to 11.
- We developed roles by including a new Communications Officer role to enhance external communications, and the marketing and promotion of our events (committee member Laura Zaliene)

Committee Members and Officers

Officers of the CDG:

- Chairperson (November 2014 - present): Marta Bustillo (TCD/NCAD)
- Secretary (April 2015 – present): Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education)
- Treasurer (November 2013 - 2016): Lara Musto (freelance teacher and lecturer)
- New Treasurer: Amye Quigley (Wicklow Co.Co. Library Service)
- New Communications Officer: Laura Zaliene (UCD)

Committee Members:

- Louise Galligan (Irish Cancer Society)
- Grace Hillis (Daughters of Charity Disability Support Services & Mental Health Commission) (new member)
- Betty Maguire (Kildare Co.Co.) (new member)
- Andrew Moore (NGI)
- Amye Quigley (Wicklow Co.Co. Library Service)
- Clair Walton (Kildare Co.Co.) (new member)
- John Wheatley (Wicklow Co.Co. Library Service) (new member)

Project management:

The Group trialled project-management tools including Basecamp and Asana to stream-line internal communications and improve event planning and task delegation/tracking. It was decided that an investment in Basecamp would be worthwhile, if the finances of the Group allow us to do so.

An Leabharlann Working Group:

The Group is creating a working group to plan and develop our role working with *An Leabharlann* to further promote the publication and the authors writing for it as well as liaising with LAI Communications officer Shona Thoma and editor in chief Marjory Sliney.

To examine opportunities for an informal mentorship programme for those entering the profession and the possibility of collaboration with other LAI groups/committees or the LAI Council, suggestions were welcomed from members at the AGM.

CDG Events in 2016:

Event 1, April 7th 2016:

Publish to Flourish: An Leabharlann & beyond! (In collaboration with NGI and

An Leabharlann).

PKSB strands: advocacy for the profession, research skills, records management & archiving.

Other key skills/issues addressed: academic writing for librarians, getting published, promotion of the LAI/CILIP joint publication *An Leabharlann* – & the CDG's new role uploading articles to eDeposit Ireland to contribute to open access to Irish research in librarianship and information work.



Speakers: (L to R) Aoife Lawton (HSE & Author of "The Invisible Librarian: A Librarian's Guide to Increasing Visibility and Impact"), Alex Kouker (DBS), Senan Healy (RDS), Colm O'Connor (RCSI), Marjory Sliney (An Leabharlann), Amye Quigley (Wicklow Co Co) and Laura Zaliene (UCD)



(L to R): Amye Quigley (Wicklow Co. Co. Library Service) Shona Thoma (Irish Research eLibrary) John Wheatley (Wicklow Co. Co. Library Service), Clare Murnane (UCD) & Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education).

Event 2, May 21st 2016:

LibCamp 2016: Are all Librarians Teachers? (in collaboration with A&SL and DBS).

PKSB strand: literacies and learning.

Other key skills/issues addressed: teaching in legal, academic & public libraries, advocacy for our teaching roles, participation at policy and national levels, accrediting our learning, adaptive teaching & special education, service design with education in mind, peer-learning.



(From L-R): Maria Rogers (Barnardos) and Johanna Archbold (RCSI) pitching at LibCamp 2016.



LibCamp Quiz winners Going Postal (from L-R): Clare Murnane (UCD), Antoine Mac Gaoithin (TCD), Niamh O'Sullivan (IBTS), & Laura Rooney Ferris (Irish Hospice Foundation).

Event 3, June 30th 2016:

#EBLIPRG twitter chat (in collaboration with LARK (Library Applied Research Collective Australia))

PKSB strands: research skills, leadership and advocacy, strategy, planning & management.

Other key skills/issues addressed: distributed leadership, evidence-based librarianship, organisational engagement & collaborative culture.

Event 4, September 23rd 2016:

Collaboration with RBG: ***The changing nature of special collections: producer and user expectations*** (RIA).

PKSB strands: collection management & development, records management & archiving

Other key skills/issues addressed: expectations of special collections leaders and users, and relevant professional and technical competencies and career potential for librarians and those involved in the digital humanities.

Event 5, October 14th 2016:

Lead to Succeed: a vision for Irish Libraries Seminar & AGM 2016 (in collaboration with the RCSI)

PKSB strands: leadership and advocacy, strategy, planning & management.

Other key skills/issues addressed: organisational change, strategic planning, inspirational leadership, supporting the career progression of library staff, advancement, promotion, future-proofing services, etc.



(L to R): CDG Chairperson Marta Bustillo, John Lonergan (former governor of Mountjoy Prison) & Kate Kelly (RCSI).



LAI CDG
Career Development
Group of the Library
Association of Ireland



LEAD TO SUCCEED

a Vision for Irish Libraries



RCSI

SAVE THE
DATE!

#LAIcdgAGM16

Friday, 14th October
9.30 am- 4pm

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
123 St Stephen's Green
Dublin

 @LAICDGroup
  Career Development Group CDG
of the Library Association of Ireland

 <https://laicdg.wordpress.com/>





Speakers (from L to R): Siobhán McGuinness, John Lonergan, Kate Kelly (RCSI), Hugh Murphy (NUIM) & Marie O'Neill (DBS).

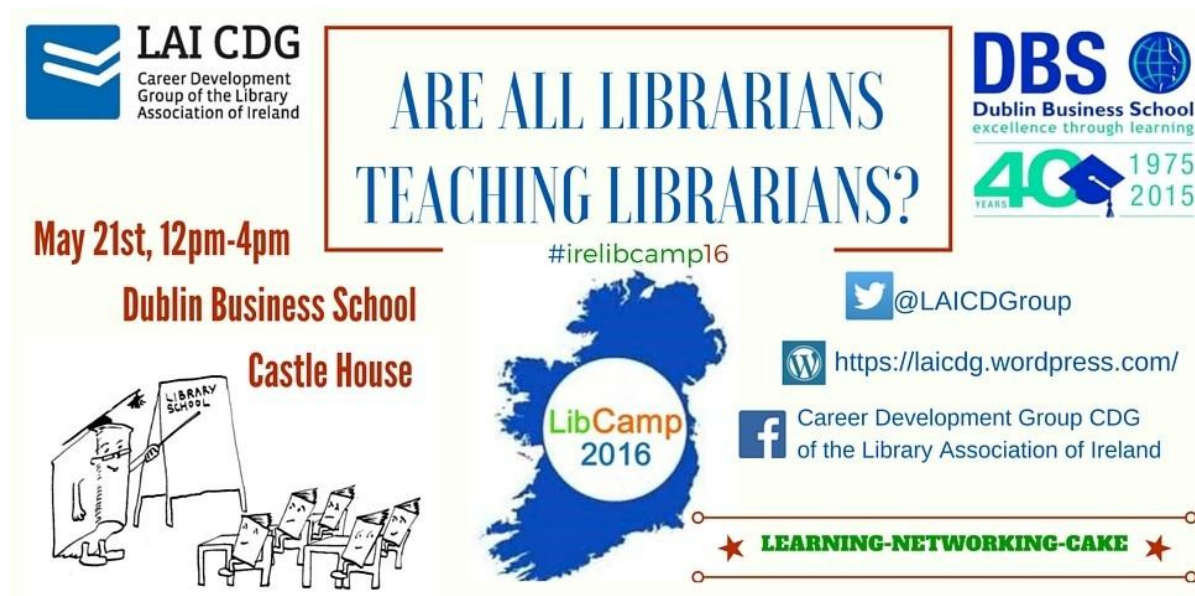


Lead to Succeed: a vision for Irish Libraries - Coffee break

Goals for 2016/2017:

- Run more hands-on workshops on the various skills of librarianship
- Stream-line our work uploading *An Leabharlann* to e-Deposit Ireland
- Run more events related to leadership in Irish libraries

- Development of a mentorship scheme



Cataloguing and Metadata Group (CMG)



Chair: Christoph Schmidt-Supprian (TCD)

Treasurer: Padraic Stack (Maynooth University)

Secretary: Catherine Ryan (UCD) [to September 2016; vacant thereafter]

Committee Members:

John Bates (RTÉ Radio)

Marta Bustillo (TCD)

Yvette Campbell (Maynooth University)

Anne Murphy (Tallaght Hospital)

Caroline Philpott (University College Cork)

Clare Thornley (Maynooth University)

Elizabeth Harford (National Library of Ireland) [from June 2016]

1.1 Committee Administrative Work

2016 was again a relatively quiet year for the LAI's Cataloguing & Metadata Group. Membership remained stable at around 200 people (154 members listed

on the LAI CMG web page, but 230 on the mailing list). Behind the scenes, the Committee was hard at work, and we experimented with a few new departures:

- We had seven meetings, one of which took place outside of Dublin (Maynooth!).
- We trialled Skype for those who cannot travel to the meeting (inconclusive outcome)
- We decided to rotate both chairing and minute-taking of meetings, and we started to adopt a 'project management' approach to organizing events.
- We conducted a 'Social Media Exercise' to develop a more coherent identity for our communications; we concluded that our 'persona' was Charles Xavier of the X-Men – like the famous mutant, cataloguers are great organisers who bring hidden connections to the fore, and the metadata we create (or link to) is like Charles's telepathy.
- We tidied up the Group's pages on the LAI website; and we improved our branding by extensively using our new logo
- We continued to have a good presence on Social Media, particularly Twitter.

There are currently a few vacancies on the Committee – we are hoping to recruit new members following the AGM.

1.2 Training and Events

On 19th and 20th of May, we held a double-workshop on subject indexing, specifically LCSH and FAST (the latest mutation of LCSH). It took place in DIT Aungier Street (another new departure), and we were lucky to get veteran trainer Keith Tricky for his last teaching engagement – he had officially retired from training in April. Both workshops were practically booked out (36 out of 40 places filled), and we received very positive feedback from attendees afterwards.

Another training event, on free software for manipulating bibliographic data (MARCedit; OpenRefine), has been postponed to 2017. Similarly, we are hoping that we will again have a full seminar next year.

On the social side, we have encapsulated the AGM in a fun reception and networking event, held in the Seminar Room of the National Library on 23 November. It was kicked off by the LAI President, Philip Cohen, with warm words of encouragement, followed by Jenny O'Neil (metadata librarian, UCD), who traced in her keynote address the evolution and value of cataloguing through an engaging reflection on her own career and hobbies.

1.3 CMG Bursary

The deadline for submission of proposals for cataloguing/metadata projects was the end of January 2016. We were delighted to receive 2 submissions, both of which were accepted. Caitriona Honohan wants to tease out the metadata

aspects of the data gathering process for her thesis on policy making for homelessness in Ireland, and we would like to support her with a portion of the 2016 Bursary money. Elaine Harrington is proposing a new piece of historical research on cataloguing standards in Irish libraries, and the Bursary Panel decided to award this with the remainder of the Bursary money. The Committee is currently in conversation with both winners about their project deliverables in terms of this Bursary, and the pay-out of the awards.

The 2017 Bursary was announced at the AGM. The closing date for applications will be 1 April 2017.

1.4 Sponsored Conference Attendance

2016 did not see a repeat of the previous year's innovation of sponsoring a Committee member to go to the LAI/CILIP Conference (or similar). It should be considered again next year, finances permitting.



Philip Cohen and Jenny O'Neill addressing the LAI CMG, 23 November 2016.

County & City Librarians Section (CCLS)

The following Officers were elected at the 2015 AGM in Roscommon on the 16th October 2015.

- Chairman: Bernadette Fennell, Louth County Council
- Vice-Chairman: Helen Walsh, Clare County Council
- Hon-Secretary: Mary Stuart, Offaly County Council
- Hon Treasurer: Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Council

Since the 2015 AGM, the Section has met on five occasions as follows:

- 16th October 2015

- 9th December 2015 (Workshop meeting with Michael O'Reilly)
- 17th February 2016
- 14th April 2016
- 22th June 2016

At the Committee meeting on the 16th October, it was agreed to ask Michael O'Reilly to facilitate a workshop in December to clarify role of CCLS within existing structures and agree a strategy to reposition the library service as a valued service.

A subcommittee was set up with membership of
Liam Ronayne
Helen Walsh (Conveynor)
Tommy O Connor
Austin Vaughan

The subcommittee has met on 3 occasions and they have recommended a draft manifesto setting out why the public libraries of Ireland are vital to the educational, cultural and socio-economic development of communities and individuals in every part of the country.

Implementing Opportunities for All – Public Library Strategy has been the main work plan for the County and City Librarians Section. A number of working groups were set up to progress the actions in the strategy.

- Opportunities for All working group
- LMS steering group & LMS working group
- Literacy and Reading Development working group
- Procurement working group
- Core services, Branding & Promotion working group
- Business, Enterprise & Employment working group
- Public Library Services to Schools working group
- Workforce Development working group
- Opening Hours working group
- Capital Funding working group

Two Steering groups were set up at National Level

- Business, Enterprise and Employment National Steering Group
- Right to Read National Steering Group

Members of the section are also active on the following committees

- National Advisory Forum for Public Libraries
- Library Development Committee
- National Safeguarding and Vulnerable Adults Steering Group

LMS: The new National LMS - Sierra - went live on 23rd June 2015 in the phase 1 libraries. Currently it is progressing in the final phase 3 libraries. All libraries will be live by January 2017. There are still outstanding issues including system performance, reserves, SMS functionality, EDI and book supplier's setup, no enhanced content, non book material bibliographic data.

Distribution Service:

The piloting of the distribution service went live on the 26th July 2016 in 13 authorities and will be reviewed before end of 2016. This review will determine how to proceed when all LA's are live by end of January 2017.

Business, Enterprise and Employment: A comprehensive independent review was carried out by researcher, Aideen Ward, to review stakeholder engagement and development of sustainable services. 15 local authorities are taking part in the second phase of the pilot. Libraries Development and the national Steering Group continue to engage with national stakeholder agencies such as LEOs and Intreo Centres. They are also working with DHPCLG to draft a template protocol of national agreement on co-operation.

Literacy/right to read:

Literacy Initiatives research projects commenced in February 2016. An Interim Report was submitted in July 2016. Currently the Evaluation Phase is nearing completion.

- **Story time with Parent Plus:** Pilot Libraries have reported back and have given qualitative and quantitative data that create a clear picture of what is required to run a successful programme.
- **Collaborative Projects:** Pilot Libraries submitted detailed reports on examples where their library service was a key stakeholder in a multi-stakeholder programme. Partners range from Community Childcare Committees to Resource Centres and from small community groups to large social enterprises.
- **Collaborations with Colleges of Education:** The pilot programme has been slower to develop given the timeframe over the summer months.

The pilots have now all reported back and the results are being analyzed to create the final recommendations. This will be available to the Right to Read working group to examine in advance of their next meeting.

Open Libraries: The national launch of the My Open Library service by Minister Damien English in Tullamore Central Library on the 12th of July was very successful. The call for proposals by the DPPCLG has received a lot of interest to date. The Open Library pilots in Offaly and Sligo are in place now almost two years and the feedback from both counties is very positive.

Procurement: The LGMA issued a Request for Tenders for the provision of On-Line Resources for Public Libraries in 2015 and this was implemented in Library Authorities in the first quarter of 2016. This service continues to expand and attract more users. A national tender/Framework will issue shortly for the provision of books and media to all public libraries.

Capital Programme

A new Library Capital Investment Programme was launched in January 2016 for the period 2016-2021. The programme will see a contribution of some €22m by the Department of the Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in some 16 library capital developments and the mainstreaming of the Open Libraries initiative.

CCLS Autumn Seminar



City & County Librarians at Autumn Seminar Oct 2016

The annual LAI City and County Librarians' Autumn Seminar took place on 6th and 7th October in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght. The title of the seminar was 'Transforming Libraries' Communication and Marketing Strategy'. The Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, Mr. Daniel McLoughlin, welcomed delegates to the seminar and gave an inspirational talk on the role of libraries and marketing our services more effectively. This was followed by workshops on Communication and Marketing with speakers from MediaHQ.com. Throughout the day there was plenty of interaction on describing and documenting target

audiences, generating ideas, shaping stories into media ready initiatives and looking at some tools to do this effectively.



Ms. Bernie Meenaghan, Acting County Librarian, introducing Deputy Mayor, Councillor Martina Genockey, South Dublin County Council

A reception was hosted by South Dublin County Council in the evening with the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Martina Genockey in attendance. Our thanks to Bernadette Fennell, Bernie Meenaghan and South Dublin County Council for all their hard work in organising this successful seminar.

We thank Richie for his contribution to the library service and wish him every happiness in all his future endeavours.

Our colleague Richie Farrell retired during the year and a presentation was made to him from the City and County Librarians.

We thank Richie for his contribution to the library service and wish him every happiness in all his future endeavours.

Genealogy and Local Studies Group (GenLoc)

Chair: Síle Coleman (South Dublin County Libraries)

Joint Secretary: Jeremy Black (Fingal County Libraries)

Joint Secretary: Inez Fletcher (National Library of Ireland)

Treasurer: Monica Cullinan (University College Dublin)

Other Committee members: Mary Broderick (National Library of Ireland), Justin Furlong (National Library of Ireland), Máire Ní Chonalláin (National Library of Ireland), Gearoid O' Brien (Westmeath County Libraries), Colette O'Flaherty (National Library of Ireland)

Membership of group: 90

Government Libraries Section (GLS)

Chair: Noeleen Murtagh (Food Safety Authority of Ireland)

Hon Sec: Una Cronin (Office of the Attorney General)

Treasurer: Máire Caffrey (Teagasc);

Committee: Jean Cassidy (Chief State Solicitor's Office); Paolo Defant (Dept of Agriculture, Food and Marine); Joe Donnelly (Judges' Library); Zoe Melling (Legal Aid Board/Refugee Documentation Centre); Paula Murphy (Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions); Fiona Morley (Legal Aid Board/Refugee Documentation Centre); Donal McSweeney (Central Bank of Ireland); Mairéad Treanor (Met Éireann); Muireann Tóibín (Revenue)

The GLS continues to provide a networking forum for librarians and information professionals employed in Government Libraries and Information Centres. The GLS held three ordinary meetings during the year. The AGM was held on 24th June 2016 in the offices of the Food Safety Authority. The AGM was preceded by a talk on edeposit Ireland by Dr Christoph Schidmt (Sub Librarian, Trinity College Dublin).

Photo: Members of GLS Committee in attendance at AGM held 24th June 2016 in offices of Food Safety Authority Ireland.

Health Science Libraries Group (HSLG)

HSLG Secretary update by Louise Bradley

HSLG Committee Members 2016

Michael Doheny (Chair)

Bennery Rickard (Vice-Chair)

Louise Bradley (Secretary)

Louise Farragher (Treasurer)

Mary Dunne, Maire Carrigan & Shauna Barrett (Communication Officers)

Maura Flynn

A joint HSLG and A&SL event was held in the Royal Irish Academy on Wednesday 13 January 2016.
There were six HSLG Committee meetings in 2016 and two by telecall.
The Annual HSLG Conference took place in Dublin, 12 & 13 May 2016.

Chairs Report by Michael Doheny

AGM

The HSLG AGM took place on May 12th at the HSLG conference in the Camden Court Hotel

HSLG AGM 2016 saw a number of hard working and talented committee members leave, Brian Galvin (one of our guiding lights who has served on the committee for many years as Treasurer and Chair), Anne Murphy (Treasurer) and Diarmuid Stokes and Caroline Rowan (Communications officers); and a huge debt of thanks was recorded to all these!

We also have happily had a number of members joining (or re-joining) the HSLG committee in 2016; Mary Dunne (HRB) and Shauna Barrett joined at the AGM, and since then Maire Carrigan, and Maura Flynn have also joined.

ICML

The work on preparation for the International Congress of Medical Librarianship plus the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) on 12 – 16 June 2017 in Dublin Castle, is ongoing. The tender for these large international conferences was originated by HSLG members, as is the continuing organization and preparation. This event is been managed by the LOC and backed by the Health Research Board. Louise Farragher is Chair of the local organising committee for this event and Aoife Lawton is chair of the International Programme Committee. HSLG will not have its own conference in 2017 but will be incorporated into ICML /EAHIL 2017. This promises to be another big event in the medical librarianship calendar and another example of commitment, vision and dedication of HSLG membership.

As usual most of this would not be possible without the hard work the continued interest and attendance by both the HSLG committee and also by the HSLG membership. Much personal CPD and writing for publication and other professional promotional work was also carried out by individual HSLG members during the year.



*HSLG Conference 2016: Question Panel:
L-R Joanne Callinan, Mary Dunne, Mairea Nelson and Aoife Lawton.*

CDP report by Anne Madden

In 2016, two CPD training events took place. The first, “Bibliometrics”, took place on Day 2 of the HSLG Conference in Dublin. The presenter was Dr. Fintan Bracken BSC MLIS PHD, Research Services & Bibliometrics Librarian in the Glucksman Library in University of Limerick. The format was an interactive workshop. It was well-attended and feedback was very positive.

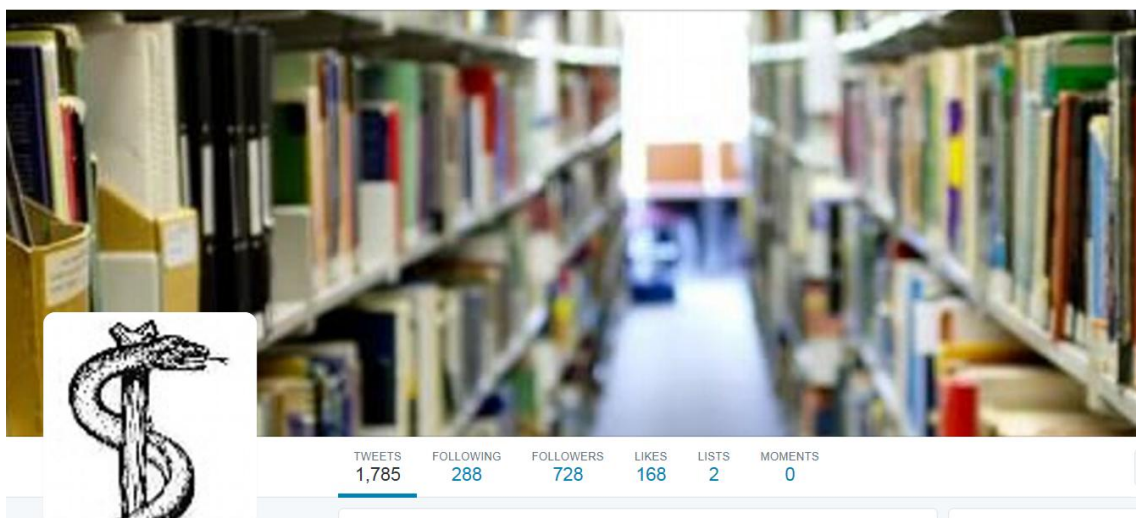
The second event was another workshop, “Research in libraries: Designing a study to demonstrate effectiveness, value or impact” and this booked out very quickly. The presenter and facilitator was Dr Alison Brett, Senior Lecturer and Information Specialist in the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work & Social Sciences, University of Salford, Manchester. Participants worked in groups and by the end of the session, each group had produced a rough blueprint for a research project. The hosts for the event were the HRB Librarians and, given the degree of enthusiasm at the workshop, they had the inspired idea to hold a follow-up session for participants who wished to progress their project. Attendees at each event were provided with a Certificate from the LAI which added significantly to their value and is an important factor for many when applying for funding or leave to attend.

In 2017, the focus will be on the joint ICML/EAHIL Conferences taking place from 12 – 16 June in Dublin Castle. We know that HSLG members will be well equipped to hold their own at this global forum.

Communications Officers report by Mary Dunne

2016 marked a transition of HSLG Communication Officers, as Caroline Rowan and Diarmuid Stokes stood down in May. During these first months, they produced two issues of our newsletter HINT, provided communications support for our annual conference and organised an active post-conference Twitterchat “Advancing health library skill sets”.

In the first post AGM meeting of the HSLG in June, Mary Dunne and Shauna Barrett were appointed Communication Officers. Marie Carrigan was appointed as a 3rd Communication Officer in November. Since this time we have continued to promote the HSLG and LAI through our email list, website <https://hslgblog.wordpress.com/> and Twitter account: [@healthlibraries](https://twitter.com/healthlibraries), which now has 726 followers



In particular, Mary worked with our CPD liaison Anne Madden to organise and promote a research/evaluation workshop with renowned librarian Alison Brettle in August entitled ‘*Research in libraries: Designing a study to demonstrate effectiveness, value or impact*’. There was great interest, and the event booked out well in advance. Importantly, we are keeping the interest and momentum going. We held a post-workshop gathering to discuss developing a consistent and evidence-based plan for evaluating current awareness. The HSLG communications team will continue to facilitate this work.



l-r: Anne Madden, Alison Brettle and Mary Dunne.

We produced three issues of our HINT (Health Information News and Thinking) newsletter in 2016. We include news and other updates, review articles, conference reports and other items relevant to health librarians.

We continue to promote the HEAR (Health Evidence Awareness Report) bulletin, compiled by HSLG librarians. Six issues have been published in 2016.

1. HEAR bulletin: focus on dyslexia, Vol 2, Issue 6
2. HEAR bulletin: focus on diabetes, Vol 2, Issue 5
3. HEAR bulletin: focus on medical resources, Vol 2, Issue 4
4. HEAR bulletin: focus on skin cancer, Vol 2, Issue 3
5. HEAR bulletin: focus on palliative & end of life care, Vol 2, Issue 2
6. HEAR bulletin: focus on getting active and eating healthily, Vol 2, Issue 1

Further Information

To join the HSLG, select HSLG when renewing LAI membership

E Mailing list: list@hslg.ie

New member for the HSLG committee or subcommittees are always welcome and needed: To join the committee or the HSLG e mailing list contact a member of the committee or contacthslg@gmail.com



HSLG Logo

Munster Regional Section

Officers

Chairman: Paul Cussen, Cork City Libraries

Vice-Chair: Helen McGonagle, Cork City Libraries

Secretary: Vacancy

Treasurer: Oragh Forde, Cork County Library and Arts Service

Committee: Sinead Feely, Cork City Libraries

The Munster Regional Section represents the interests of LAI members working throughout the South of Ireland. The group aims to inform and educate library staff in the Munster region, as well as provide opportunities for social interaction. A committee is elected at the AGM and all LAI members are welcome.

Activities and Events

The committee last formally met in 2011 and discussed the economic difficulties and how that may affect attendance at events and training.

AGM

An AGM was held on 12 May in Mallow. Dr. Philip Cohen began the proceedings by giving an informal presentation about the Library Association, the Professional Knowledge Skills Base (PKSB), Associateship and Fellowship of the LAI, emphasising that Groups and Sections are what constitute the LAI and are intrinsic to the development of our members.

Election of officers did not take place as attendance of both the committee and general membership was deemed too low to hold the elections. As a result of this low attendance, the meeting supported the continuation of the existing committee while acknowledging the need to rejuvenate the section.



l-r: James Cashman *Fexco*, Liz O'Sullivan *UL*,
Dr. Philip Cohen *DIT* & Paul Cussen *Cork City Libraries*
at the Munster Regional Section AGM in Mallow

Communications

laimunsterregionalsection@gmail.com

laimunsterregionalsec.blogspot.com

Public Libraries Section

New Committee from November 2016:

Chair:	Emer Donoghue
Vice Chair:	John Shortall
Treasurer:	Jackie McIntyre
Vice Treasurer:	Pat Lonergan
Secretary:	Melanie Cunningham

Committee Members:

Josephine Vahey
Mary Murphy
Sandra Turner

The Committee met five times during 2015, these meetings took place in the ILAC Centre Library, Dublin and Pearse Street Library.

Public Libraries Conference 2016

Public Libraries Section's Annual Conference took place from the 9th to 11th of November at the Faithlegg House Hotel, at the invitation of Waterford County Council. Over 100 delegates attended.

The overall theme of this year's conference was 'Innovators and Creators: Architectural, Technological, Social and Community Spaces' continuing the exploration of key areas in 'Opportunities for All'. The conference was accredited by the Library Association of Ireland.

President of the Association, Philip Cohen, formally opened the conference, welcomed delegates and talked on the benefits of becoming an active LAI member, the importance of continuing professional development and introduced the LAI Professional knowledge and skills base package available to all members.

One of the conference highlights were the presentations by the LAI Public Libraries Section Project Prize finalists (Cork City, Wexford and Sligo); a fund of €1000 was awarded by votes from delegates on their favourite shortlisted project. Applications had been invited from all local authorities with the aim of providing an opportunity to develop and implement innovative ideas. The initiative served to stimulate ideas and creativity amongst public library staff and the presentation to conference delegates allowed for potential project emulation in other library services. John Shortall gave a presentation from Carlow, last year's winners of the prize and showed the development of the project dealing with teenagers issues since the win in 2015.

Cork's winning project was 'Growing Imaginations – Sensory book in a bag' project. The project focused on users with intellectual difficulties where the library would provide various workshops in arts to make books in subjects that interested them. Sligo spoke of their 'Creative Community Bookshelf' project which provide a decorative and dedicated library in the community, in areas such as old people homes etc. Wexford presented their 'After school our town' project which focused on children's learning of family history and digital library resources to improve literacy levels.

Other highlights included a talk from Chris Wiersma from the Netherlands Almere Library. Their library service has the design and concept of a shop within a shop approach, with Dewey spread through areas of interest and interest groups

rather than strict Dewey order. He spoke about their library initiatives to engage users, and showed clips from various library events the service has run.

The conference continued with a talk from Patricia Fitzgerald on Tedx Talks in Tallaght library, who outlined the process and guidelines of hosting these popular online talks.

The afternoon continued with a visit to the new Carrickpherish Library in Waterford, which is not yet open to the public. The Section's Annual General Meeting took place at the library and the committee listed at the beginning of this report was elected. Mary Murphy, the outgoing Chair thanked Waterford libraries for their invitation for this year's conference and thanked the committee for all their hard work during the year.

At the Conference dinner there was an address by Minister of State Damien English who spoke of the role of the public library service and the open libraries project. The after dinner speech was from PJ Lynch, Laureate na Nóg and Cork Library Service was announced as our project prize winner for 2016.

Friday Morning commenced with a talk from Helen Shenton from Trinity College Library on the 'New space and place of libraries' where she outlined initiatives from Trinity and approaches to digitisation, collection development, challenges facing research libraries for the future and Trinity's new library strategy.

Jason Vit from the UK's National Literacy Trust gave a presentation on their initiatives in tackling intergenerational low literacy in socially deprived areas of the UK. This is a place based approach where they set up community hubs in disadvantaged areas of the UK to increase literacy levels using a wide range of community groups.

The conference concluded with the firm favourite 'My Life in Books' panel, chaired by Eddie O'Sullivan, which included authors Andrea Hayes and Dave Lordan, and Vanessa O'Loughlin . The panel discussed a wide range of books that impressed them from a young age, through to their teens and into adulthood.



Secretary Melanie Cunningham with this years Project Prize winner Breda Hassett from Cork City Libraries

Rare Books Group (RBG)

Chair: Elizabethanne Boran (Edward Worth Library)

Secretary: David Meehan (Dublin City University)

Treasurer: Celine Ward (Chester Beatty Library)

Committee Members: Marie Boran (NUI Galway), Stephanie Breen (TCD), Alexandra Caccamo (Botanical Gardens Library), Sophie Evans (RIA), Evelyn Flanagan (UCD), Elaine Harrington (UCC), Barbara McCormack (Maynooth University), Jason McElligott (Marsh's Library), Máire Ní Chonalláin (NLI), Nicola O'Shea (TCD)

During the year, Nicola O'Shea became the representative for the National Gallery of Ireland; Stephanie Breen replaced Nicola O'Shea as TCD's representative. The Committee met five times during 2016 (25 January, 4 April, 7 July, 26 September and 12 December).

Events

AGM

The AGM took place at 12:30 on 17 February 2016 at the Royal Irish Academy. Elizabethanne Boran, David Meehan and Celine Ward were re-elected to their respective offices.

After the AGM, Prof. James Quinn (UCD) gave a presentation on 'The genesis of 1916: Portraits and lives'.

Annual visit

The group organised a visit to the Military Archives at Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin, on 17 June. Commandant Padraic Kennedy gave the visiting group a presentation on the development and management of the archive. Afterwards, Commandant Kennedy, showed us the reading room and took us on a tour of the new archive storage facility. Members of the group also went to the visitors' centre which was opened especially for the occasion. Twenty-four people went on this visit.

Workshop on 'The changing nature of special collections' (in conjunction with the Career Development Group)

This year's highly successful workshop was held at the Royal Irish Academy on 23 September, on the theme of 'The changing nature of special collections: producer and user expectations'. This full day workshop addressed current trends in the development of special collections services and facilities, and the profile of work being conducted in an ever broadening field. The Rare Books Group intended to provide a strong collaborative, professional developmental dimension to this workshop and was delighted to be able to conduct it in conjunction with the LAI's Career Development Group.

The event brought particular focus to bear on the complementary perspectives of those delivering services and those using them. We introduced international and multidisciplinary themes by inviting Rachel Beckett, Associate Director of the John Rylands Library/Research Centre at the University of Manchester (a librarian) and Siobhan Convery, Head of Special Collections at the Sir Duncan Rice Library at the University of Manchester (an archivist). Hugh Murphy, Senior Librarian at Maynooth University gave an Irish perspective.

The presenters were joined in a lively afternoon expert round table discussion by Gerry Long, Assistant Keeper, Manuscripts & Rare Books, National Library of Ireland, Kalpana Shankar, Head of School, School of Information and Communication Studies, UCD and Marta Bustillo, Chair, CDG (LAI). The format gave participants an opportunity to engage directly with the guest presenters and panellists.

The event was CPD accredited by the LAI. Thirty two attendees participated in the workshop.

Annual Seminar on 'Book collecting in Ireland and Britain, 1650-1850

The international theme of the workshop was continued in this year's very successful annual seminar, held at the Chester Beatty Library on Friday, 25 November. It was accredited by the LAI for CPD purposes and attended by 55 people, and comprised the following presentations:

- Dr. Bernadette Cunningham (RIA): 'Readers or collectors? Manuscripts and books in the lives of Irish scholars in late seventeenth-century Connacht'
- Ms. Barbara McCormack (NUIM): 'The Otway-Maurice collection: Ecclesiastical collecting in late seventeenth to mid eighteenth-century Ireland';
- Dr. Karen Baston (University of Edinburgh): 'Two Eighteenth-Century Scottish Lawyers' Libraries: Lord Tinwald, Lord Alva, and their Book Collections';
- Mr Thomas Lloyd: 'Country House collecting in eighteenth-century Wales';
- Dr David Pearson (City of London Corporation): 'Motives for book collecting in late seventeenth-century England';
- Dr Rebecca Bowd (Leeds University Library): 'Lending Libraries in Georgian Leeds, 1768-1815'; and
- Professor Andrew Pettegree and Mr Arthur der Weduwen (University of St. Andrew's): 'The Library as a Weapon of State. The Fagel Collection in Dublin'.

The seminar was run in conjunction with the British Book History Research Network and the Edward Worth Library, Dublin, whose Librarian, Elizabethanne Boran, will be editing the proceedings. It was followed by a launch of Dr Karen Attar's *The Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland* (London: Facet, 2016).



Professor Andrew Pettegree delivering the keynote lecture at the RBG's Annual Seminar at the Chester Beatty Library on 25 November 2016

Western Regional Section (WRSLAI)

2016 Committee Members:

Chair: Anne Callanan (Galway County Libraries)

Secretary: Stephanie Ronan (Marine Institute, Galway)

Treasurer: Niamh O'Donovan (Galway County Libraries)

Communications Officers: Emmet Keoghan (CES) & Mary Murray (GMIT, Galway)

Committee Members: Carolyn Tunney (Roscommon County Libraries), Elizabeth Keane Kelly (Galway County Libraries), Tara Considine (Clare County Libraries), Michelle Breen (University of Limerick), Saoirse Reynolds (Maynooth University), Kris Meen (National University of Ireland, Galway)

Overview:

The WRSLAI had a successful year in 2016. Following on from our AGM in late December, we elected four new committee members for this year and our officers were re-elected into their current roles. A new position of 'Communications officer' was created and with two candidates vying for the role, it was decided they should both share the role in its infancy year. In February we were honoured to have LAI president Dr. Philip Cohen to our Spring Networking & Rudaí 23 certificate ceremony held in NUIG. The energy and vibrancy of this

year's larger committee also ensured that we had a terrific annual seminar in June, which was held in the University of Limerick and live streamed to the world. We will host a Winter Networking Morning in Athlone public library on Monday 5th December.

Committee Activities:

The committee will have met in person on four occasions in 2016. However, we continue to meet online using our project management tool – Wiggio and through Google Hangouts.

Main Events:

Our **Spring Networking Afternoon** took place on 27th February 2016 in the James Hardiman Library, NUI Galway. The theme of the day was centered on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and it also allowed an opportunity for networking with other library and information professionals. Stephanie Ronan chaired the event which started off with a welcome address from NUIG's University Librarian John Cox. John congratulated all involved in the very successful [Rudaí 23](#) course and highlighted the importance of CPD for your career.

Dr. Frances Boylan of DIT followed and outlined her role behind the "12 apps of Christmas". The 12 apps introduced a different educational app each day and this "short bite size free CPD tool" (Boylan, 2016) was indeed very successful. One of the main goals of this project was to raise awareness of personalised learning apps and the feedback was very positive. Our next speaker was HSE Librarian Aoife Lawton speaking about the importance of visibility and impact for libraries. Her recently published book "[The Invisible Librarian](#)" advises librarians and other information professionals how to promote visibility and impact within the wider organisations. Aoife believes that we should all be putting the science back into information science. Following Aoife, was RCSI & UCD's Jane Burns – a well-known face in the Irish Library community. Jane's talk was on the professional value of Life Long Learning. Getting involved in professional organisations such as the [Library Association of Ireland](#) (LAI) has had a massive impact on Jane's career and she can now add Associateship and Fellowship to her long list of achievements.

The final speaker of the day was Dr. Philip Cohen President of the LAI. Philip congratulated all Rudaí 23 moderators and participants on the fantastic work that was done to bring this course to life. Rudaí 23 is the first online accredited course from the LAI. Finally all those Rudaí 23 participants that were present were presented with their LAI CPD certificate for the course.

It was a very proud day for both Rudaí 23 and WRSLAI. We would especially like to thank John Cox of the NUIG library for hosting the afternoon, all who attended and indeed for our speakers.

Photos available of all participants receiving their certificates from Dr. Cohen here: <https://wrslai.wordpress.com/2016/03/23/wrslai-networking-afternoon/#jp-carousel-629>



Niamh O'Donovan receiving her LAI CPD certificate from Dr. Philip Cohen
Photo: Wayne Gibson

Annual Seminar 2016

Our annual seminar was held on Monday, June 27th, featuring a particularly rich line-up of speakers from across library sectors. We were very fortunate to be hosted by the University of Limerick, who, along with top-notch hospitality, helped provide the seminar with its first experience of live streaming. Library director and former LAI president Gonnait O' Riordan warmly opened the day's events. A very strong attendance of nearly fifty people was joined by a potentially global audience. The theme for this year was "Literacy for Life", and featured talks by thirteen speakers covering a lot of ground within larger literacy idea, including traditional literacy, information literacy, digital literacy and archival literacy. Tweets flew hard and fast, with the event hashtag, #libwest16, trending on Twitter by early in the morning.

The first speaker on the day was Sean Love, Executive Director of the wildly successful creative writing programme Fighting Words. The programme was co-founded in 2009 with author Roddy Doyle after it was observed that children didn't have a lot of opportunities to undertake creative writing in the standard

national curricula. They started up Fighting Words as an opportunity for people to do so.



Sean Love, Fighting Words, Dublin
Photo: Michelle Breen

The morning followed on with speakers Laura Campbell, a primary school teacher who co-founded a Fighting Words programme in County Mayo; and Fionnuala Hanrahan, who gave an excellent overview of the political landscape of public libraries in Ireland. Hanrahan explained some of the repercussions of changes to how the administration of public libraries has been positioned vis-à-vis local structures of government.

After a coffee break, the programme moved on to a quartet of speakers with a focus on examples of programme delivery in the context of a number of literacy scenarios. Health sciences librarian Grace Hillis talked about her efforts at providing literacy services to people with intellectual disabilities. Jane Bingham-Shee, talked about her experience working with a Junior Cert School Programme demonstration library. Kris Meen spoke on teaching blended learning sessions at NUI Galway and Liz Dore from UL completed the quartet, moving into the arena of digital literacies and her own role in completing a literature review of frameworks related to digital skills. This fed into the what became the All Aboard digital skills framework.

Digital skills straddled the lunch break, with Connell Cunningham from NUI Galway's James Hardiman Library commencing the afternoon, talking about the Hardiman's new MakerSpace. The afternoon then moved on to three talks touching on archives. Noting that a substantial amount of his work ultimately revolves around outreach, NUI Galway's Barry Houlihan presented on a suite of exhibitions that have been brought to the James Hardiman complex after the construction of a new building brought about new possibilities – and challenges. Evelyn McAuley, promotion and outreach archivist at the University of Limerick, talked about strategies she has undertaken in promoting archival literacy in the context of displays. Anne O'Byrne, Head Librarian at the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin, took to the podium with a talk about the "Rotunda Birth of a Nation" 1916 exhibit.

An afternoon coffee break was followed by two speakers touching on CPD. Siobhan McGuinness presented an engaging treatise on how and why we don't retain information that we read. Finally rounding out the event, GMIT's Mary Murray gave an update on the Rudaí 23 online CPD project.

In the words of a Tweet from the Library Association of Ireland, the programme was "a lovely journey from pre-school to professional development". Congratulations to all on a day full of high-quality, enlightening talks and conversations.

The live recordings of the day, a full report, speaker bios and associated photographs can be found on our WRSLAI blog
<https://wrslai.wordpress.com/2016/07/01/libwest-seminar-round-up-part-one/>



Kris Meen, NUI Galway
Photo: Michelle Breen

Winter Networking Morning

The committee will host a Winter Networking Morning in the Aidan Heavey Library, Athlone on Monday the 5th of December 2016. Following a welcome reception for all participants, Laura Connaughton from Maynooth University Library will give a presentation on how to create a conference poster that will be sure to get you noticed. She will also talk about why you should submit conference posters. In this workshop, participants are invited to bring their laptops and try out some of the tools Laura suggests. Following this, we will host a group discussion on current library trends and matters and round the morning off with an exclusive guided tour of Athlone Library Special Collections. As with the Spring Networking Afternoon, this will be a free event.

Communications

Email: westernlibraries@gmail.com

Websites

www.wrslai.wordpress.com

<http://www.rudai23.blogspot.ie/>

Social media

Twitter: @WRSLAI, @Rudai23

LinkedIn: Western Regional Section of the Library Association, Rudai 23

Joining the WRSLAI Section of the LAI :

To join the WRSLAI Section, select WRSLAI when renewing your LAI membership

Youth Libraries Group (YLG)

Chair: Aisling Donnelly (Kildare Libraries)

Secretary: Deirdriu McQuaid (Monaghan County Libraries)

Treasurer: Helen O'Donnell (Dublin City Public Libraries)

Committee members 2016-17:

Catherine Gallagher (South Dublin Libraries), Frances Crampsie (Donegal Libraries), Maedhbh Rogan (Meabh Libraries), Eimear McGinn (Kildare Libraries), Anne Marie Kelly (Dublin City Public Libraries), Catherine Duffy (Dublin City Public Libraries)

The YLG met once in 2016 for 'Library Success Stories Day' on June 16th.

This year library staff came together in Ballyfermot library to discuss programmes that had worked for them over the past 12 months. 38 people attended and the following events were shared:

Club na nÓg – Irish language club for young people (Cavan Libraries)

Roald Dahl programmes (Donegal Libraries & Dublin City Libraries)

Citywide Read programme (Dublin City Libraries)

Teen Graphic Novel project (Dunlaoghaire Rathdown Libraries)

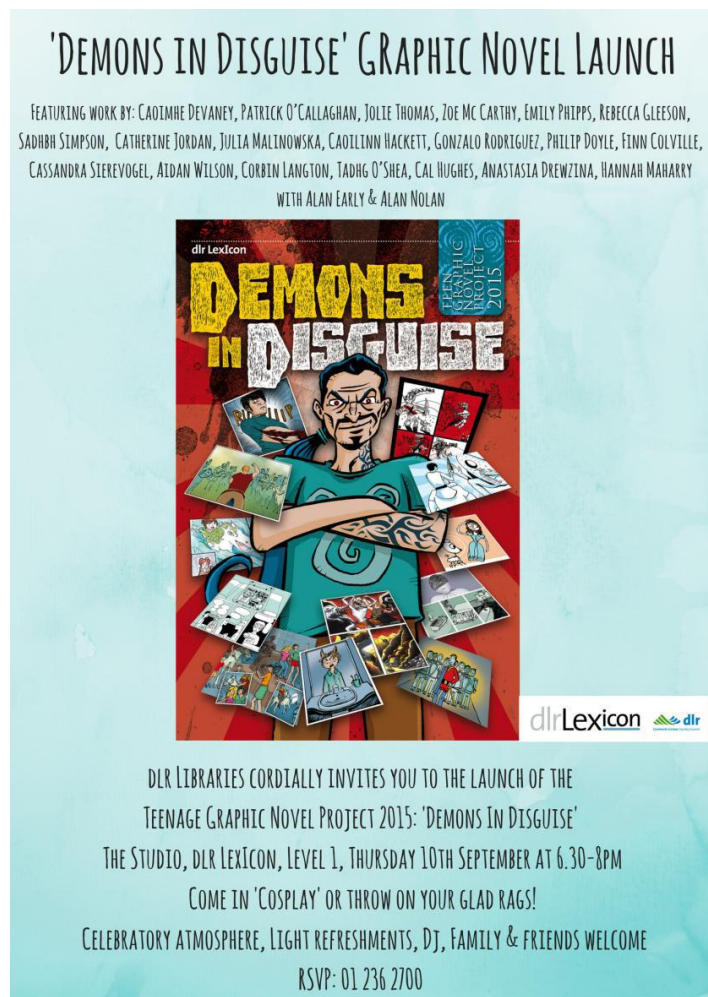
Aistear Programme (Kilkenny Libraries)

Creative Campus (South Dublin Libraries)

12 books of Christmas (Westmeath Libraries)

Bealtaine & young people (Roscommon Libraries)

The group were delighted with the positive feedback received and look forward to hosting another seminar next year.



Poster used in Teen Graphic Novel project by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries



A slide from the Aistear Programme run by Kilkenny libraries and shown at YLG Success Stories Day

The Prison Libraries Group and **Meitheal Oibre** were not active during 2016 and the current position of these two groups is under review.

2 Membership

In 2016, the figures for personal and institutional membership respectively were 579 and 67. In accordance with the regulations of the Association, those who had not renewed by September were deemed to be lapsed members.

3 Acknowledgements

The Association acknowledges with thanks the support of many library and other institutions and businesses without whose cooperation and support it could not have operated so effectively throughout the year. Particular thanks are due to:

- Dublin City Public Libraries for providing a correspondence address
- Dublin City Public Libraries for making facilities for meetings available to the Council throughout 2016
- The very many library organisations that accommodated committee meetings, seminars, launches, workshops and visits throughout the year
- The chief librarians and leaders of service organisations who facilitated staff to participate at meetings, promotions, CPD, and other events
- The Royal Irish Academy, Dublin City Public Libraries, Fingal County Libraries, South Dublin County Libraries and Waterford City and County Council Libraries for providing storage for Association records
- Kerry Library Service, Kerry County Council for hosting the Annual Joint Library Association of Ireland/CILIP Ireland conference in Killarney in April 2016
- The library business sector and other friends of the Association that support its work through sponsorship of meetings, seminars, and other activities.

Appendix

Organisation of the Association

The Library Association of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee. Every member is a shareholder. The Council is the company's Board of Directors. The Memorandum and Articles of Association establish the methods and capacity of the Association to manage its business. These are the foundation documents for all action by the Association and they outline procedures in place. Currently membership is open to individuals and institutions. Participative membership is encouraged to benefit the profession and the person.

This annual report illustrates the range of opportunities for active participation that are open to members currently. The Articles of Association describe the procedure to initiate other relevant activity. Activities can be at individual and group levels. Activity at individual level can include research, writing, mentoring, lecturing / training, further education, advocacy, contributing a specialist or secondary expertise. Group work can include all of the above in community – and contribution to panels, taskforces and working groups. A list of panels and other structures are listed below, and current membership of those structures is listed throughout the report, should you be interested in learning more about an area of activity.

Membership of Groups and Sections forms part of membership. Participation at committee level of Groups and Sections can be a valuable learning and networking experience. Committees are elected at Annual General Meetings. The election process is advertised to members in advance. Groups and Sections have documented procedures which operate within the parameters of the overarching Memorandum and Articles, possibly with refinements to suit local circumstances. Groups and Sections can create time-specific, focused sub-committees in response to priorities and workloads.

Groups and Sections are

Sectoral

Academic and Special Libraries Section
County and City Librarians Section
Government Libraries Section
Health Sciences Libraries Section
Prison Libraries Group
Public Libraries Section

Regional

Western Regional Section
Munster Regional Section

Interest specific [cross-sectoral]

Cataloguing and Metadata Group
Career Development Group [established 2012]

Genealogy and Local Studies Group
Meitheal Oibre na Gaeilge
Rare Books Group
Youth Libraries Group

Membership of the Council is open to all personal members in good standing. The procedure for election to membership of the Council is outlined in the Articles and the nomination / election process is advertised to all members in advance of the Annual General Meeting. Election to the Offices of President, Vice-President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer is also open to all personal members in good standing. Similar to the Council, the procedure is outlined in the Articles and the nomination / election process is advertised to all members in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

The Council has a range of sub-committees, taskforces and panels. In general membership of these is not exclusive to Council members. Some structures are of a temporary nature, responsive to the work involved.

Areas covered by committees currently are

Professional Education

Professional Standards

Continuing Professional Development

Communications

Communications and Website

Editorial Board of ***An Leabharlann: the Irish Library***

Leabharlann-e

Services Development

Library Ireland Week

Literacies

North / South Liaison committee [with CILIP. Ireland]

International & European Affairs Panel

Management & Administration

Administration

Action Planning

Audit Committee

Initially, each committee develops its Terms of Reference which are approved by the Council. Guidelines on the development of Terms of Reference are provided on the Association's website.

The Association also provides nominees to a range of external organisations. These are listed in the annual report. The election of nominees varies depending upon the organisation involved.

Since the Council is responsible for the correct and effective running of the Association, all committees and nominees report regularly through its Honorary Secretary.

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C/O 138-144 Pearse Street
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Annual Report 2016
©The Library Association of Ireland 2017
ISSN: 0791-6248
www.libraryassociation.ie