

**Academic & Special Libraries Section
- 2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: 22 June 2006

Venue: The Glass Room, TCD School of Nursing & Midwifery, 24 D'Olier Street, Dublin 2.

AGENDA:

1. Drinks reception

2. Welcome / Introduction

3. Keynote Speaker:

Ruth Flanagan (President of the LAI):

“The LAI and the importance of Continuing Professional Development for Information Professionals”

4. Review of the Year

5. Financial Report

6. Plans for the coming year

7. Q&A Session

The Academic & Special Libraries Section

The Academic and Special Libraries Section functions within the Library Association of Ireland to cater for the needs of information professionals working in Universities, Institutes of Technology, private third level colleges and research institutions, as well as the commercial, state and semi-state sectors. The Committee is drawn from members working in all these sectors. The primary function of the Section is to provide a forum for discussion on issues relevant to academic and special librarians and carries out this remit through the provision of seminars, workshops, talks and visits. These activities are open to all members and are advertised on the LAI website, Leabharlann-e, Irish Library News, on the A&SL Section e-mail discussion group and by mailshot to Section members.

Review of the year 2005-2006

The Academic & Special Libraries Group was reformed at the AGM in June 2005 and the following committee members were appointed:

Chairperson: Áine O'Connor (Arup Consulting Engineers)

Secretary: Ann O'Sullivan (formerly Diageo)

Treasurer: Erin O'Mahony (Trinity College Dublin)

Members: Caitriona Sharkey (Ernst & Young);

Eva Hornung (Curriculum Development Unit, City of Dublin VEC)

Olivia Fitzpatrick (University College Cork.)

The AGM was held on the 9th of June 2005, in the Library in the Royal Irish Academy. Anne Murray, the Deputy Librarian from Cambridge University, was our guest speaker. She gave a very interesting talk on "Cambridge Library - Preserving the Past and Building for the Future".

In September 2005 we organised a Copyright Seminar, mainly aimed at corporate libraries and information centres, the main speaker was Katrina Crooks from McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors. This was held in the National Museum at Collins Barracks in Dublin. The aim of the seminar was to clarify some of the issues and obligations for those who work in a corporate setting providing internal information services.

In April 2006 we organised a one day seminar in the RDS, entitled "Promoting professional practices: continuing skills development for information professionals". The seminar proved to be a very interesting day, with much debate about the current and future role of all information professionals. We were fortunate to have a range of excellent speakers who challenged us to reflect on the significance of our career and skills development in a changing environment. Our morning speakers were Professor Prof Niels Ole Pors from the Danish Royal School of Library & Information Science; Jessie Kurtz - Deputy Librarian at Trinity College Dublin; Marion Khorshidian - Campus Library Manager at the University of Ulster and Marjorie Sliney - Senior

Librarian with Fingal County Libraries. The afternoon session was a Panel debate on transferable skills called "Steps to Success: Developing skills for professional excellence". This discussion provided an opportunity to get insight into the career experience of professionals from across the sectors. Catherine Waters, senior manager of the Information and Research Centre of PricewaterhouseCoopers, chaired the Panel Debate, and the speakers were: Marie Reddan - Librarian of the James Hardiman Library in Galway; Siobhán Fitzpatrick - Librarian of the Royal Irish Academy; Madelaine Dennison, Head of Library and Research Services in the Houses of the Oireachtas and Anne Hodge - Curator of Prints and Drawings in the National Gallery of Ireland.

Logo & Website: This year we have developed a logo for the section which we now use on all advertising and correspondence and we plan to use it on our section of the new LAI website. We are also working with the LAI on the design of the new LAI website.

Plans for 2006-2007

One of our plans for the coming year is to organise informal networking evenings. These evenings will provide librarians and information professionals with an opportunity to meet up in an informal setting and over a drink to share news, views and experiences.

We are delighted to announce that the first one will take place in July. The theme of the evening will be: "All about the LAI – an overview of the association: the executive board, the committees, the professional qualifications etc and what it means for you"

Where & When: Thursday, 20 July 2006 – 6-8pm

The Library Bar, Central Hotel, Exchequer St. Dublin 2

No booking required - just turn up!

For more details please contact any member of the committee.