

AAMES

NEWSLETTER

A biannual publication of the Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Section of ACRL/ALA

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Message from the Chair

Libraries and Technology

Libraries have played an important part in the world for centuries to store and retrieve information for scholars and others. It is a well known fact that the method of obtaining information from libraries has changed from clay tablets, hand written materials, to printing materials, to microforms, to CD-ROMS, and to the on-line storage, including databases of the present times. The changes were introduced by different generations to meet the changing needs of users. Technology was introduced in libraries during the second half of the Twentieth Century. In the present Twenty-first Century, western nations have been successful in implementing technology in their libraries, but many other nations including third world countries of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East are struggling. Before discussing the main reasons for their struggle, I will like to mention that it was the prediction of the late Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, an internationally known librarian, and a library educator from India, in the 1950's that said, technology will become an important part of libraries. His prediction has certainly become a reality. The information is now available even from outside the library, twenty-four hours a day from homes, offices, dorms, and other places for all interested users seeking information.

The libraries have changed and are changing from the manual systems of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries to the electronic systems in the present century. There is no doubt that a few countries in the third world, including some in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, have been successful

in introducing technology in their libraries but they have a long way to go before they will catch up with the Western nation. There are many hurdles, barriers, and problems blocking the progress in libraries of these regions. They include a shortage of money for technology, books, journals, lack of professional staff, lack of professional library schools, and library educators, and lack of proper facilities including library buildings. Technology is still very expensive for a majority of libraries in Asian, African, and Middle Eastern countries. How can they think of introducing technology before improving the basic needs of users, including books, journals, training and services? I have visited libraries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East and must say that many of them are still struggling to have proper libraries and library materials. Many villages are without libraries and donkeys, elephants, horses, and other animals are still used in transporting books and other materials to their libraries in remote areas.

Another barrier faced by libraries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, is the alarming rate of illiteracy. How can they even think of introducing technology in their libraries when they have to fight hunger, poverty and illiteracy. According to a recent statistical report of the United Nations, in Afghanistan, 95% of the women cannot read or write, in Bangladesh, 64.7% are still illiterate. In Iraq, 61% of the people are illiterate, in Benin, West Africa, 69.6% of the people are illiterate, and in South

Africa, 70% of the people are still illiterate. In south and west Asia, 44.7% of the people are illiterate, including 56.4% females, and in Africa, 40.2% population is still illiterate. In Nepal, the literacy rate is only 20.1%, in Sierra Leone 20.7%, Somalia 24.1%, and Pakistan 34.8%. How will technology help when people cannot even read or write? There are 186 languages spoken in 192 countries of the present world. 68.39% web pages are in the English language. Only 5.77% of web pages are in the Japanese language and 3.7% in the Chinese language. Many Asian, African, and the Middle Eastern languages are not even represented on the internet. There are 18 computers per 1,000 people in Arab countries as compared to 78 per 1,000 on average in the rest of the world. Only 1.6% of the Arab population has access to the Internet as compared to 79% of people in the United States. In addition, electricity is not available twenty four hours a day and communication charges are still very high in many countries of our regions. In addition, computers and software are still very expensive and not available in many languages of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

In spite of these hurdles and barriers, efforts need to be made for progress. Therefore, AAMES has invited four distinguished speakers for its program in Orlando, on June 26, 2004. Our speakers, Drs. M. Aman, Ching-Chih Chen, Jim Natsis, and Professor Kay Raseroka, will update us on the impact of technology on libraries and collections in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. It is a golden and a rare

opportunity for all of you to hear internationally known and distinguished speakers. I may add that it is the first time in the history of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) that a president of IFLA, (Professor Kay Raseroka) will speak at the Conference. All speakers will be honored at the AAMES meeting for their outstanding service, leadership, and continuing excellence. Therefore, I invite you to join us for an excellent program. The Program Committee has worked very hard to organize this historical event. Many other library organizations, including the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), Black Caucus, Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), International Relations Round Table (IRRT) of ALA, International Relations Committee (IRC) of ACRL, and the African-American Studies Librarians Section (AFAS/ACRL) will co-sponsor AAMES Program. I want to thank Anjana Bhatt and her committee members for their hard work to organize this important program for all of you.

AAMES has been very busy this year. The much needed newsletter of the section was started and AAMES brochure was also published under the able leadership of Dr. Rajwant Chilana, and the Bylaws have been revised under the effective leadership of Sara Elman. All committees have been active and have contributed to the success of the section. I am confident that future chairs and committee members of AAMES will carry on the torch with dignity and pride. I have enjoyed my tenure as your chair and want to thank each of you for your hard work, devotion, high spirit, and contributions.

I look forward to welcoming all of you and your friends in Orlando to our program.

R.N. Sharma
Chair, AAMES

From the Editor

It is my great pleasure to present our members the second issue of the AAMES Newsletter. The inaugural issue was released just before the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January 2004 at San Diego, and was much appreciated by many professionals. All members of the Publication Committee have been encouraged by the positive feedback from many professionals. During the Midwinter Meeting, the AAMES Brochure was also released which highlighted the various activities of AAMES. In this second issue of the newsletter, I have included information about AAMES committees and their reports, professional activities in Asian, African and Middle Eastern areas, forthcoming meetings and conferences, members in the news, and related publications. Thanks are due to all members that helped us in bringing out this second issue. I look forward to seek continued cooperation and contributions from our learned members for their input in forthcoming issues. Please continue sending me your suggestions, ideas, news or brief write-ups relating to Asian, African and Middle Eastern activities at rchilana@uiuc.edu.

We hope to see you all at the ALA Annual Conference at Orlando in June 2004.

Rajwant S. Chilana
*Chair, Publications Committee
and Editor AAMES Newsletter*
rchilana@uiuc.edu

Editorial Committee:
Rajwant Chilana, Anjana Bhatt,
Cynthia Tysick, Emilie Ngo-Nguidjol,
and Jian Tian

AAMES Program at Orlando

AAMES Executive Committee and Membership meeting will be held on Saturday, June 26, 2004 in Room NO-MEUS of the Renaissance Orlando Hotel during the ALA Annual conference at Orlando from 9:30 AM-11.00

AM. All Committees Meeting will be held same day from 11.30AM-12.30PM in Room GROUPER of the Renaissance Orlando Hotel. And AAMES program will be held between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM in Ritz Carlton Hotel in Plaza Ballroom III. Both meetings are open to all members of AAMES, and every one is invited to attend the program. For more information and venue please visit the ALA Annual website: <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/an2004/home.htm>

Committees Reports Program Planning Committee

(Reported by Anjana Bhatt, Associate University Librarian, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Chair- Program Planning Committee, AAMES)

Anjana Bhatt, Chair, and members of the Program Planning Committee- Rosalie C. Amer, Moushumi (Mou)Chakraborty, John A. Eilts and Dr. Majed Khader, Co-Chair are proud to announce that they have completed the initial requirements for presenting AAMES program at the ALA 2004 Annual Conference in Orlando. The details of the program are as follow:

General Description: Technology has revolutionized libraries, collection strategies, services and user expectations. For better serving our users, libraries dealing with Asian, African, and Middle Eastern collections ought to be ready and prepared.

In the Internet era, IT has allowed library professionals to collect e-books and subscribe to e-databases. It is essential that librarians develop collective knowledge about the availability of electronic information in the field of Asian, African and Middle Eastern library collections and assist our distance learners by providing time and space free services. More internal and exterior collaboration is needed. External funds through

grants, gifts, and other means should be considered to substitute institutional budget crises and cuts.

We anticipate that our distinguished speakers will enlighten attendees with their knowledge and experience that is required to incorporate digital books/e-resources into the library collections. In addition to learning about innovative and practical solutions for improving collections in digital format, we also hope that our speakers will provide positive input to the subject of this program.

Program Track: Collection Management and Technical Services
Sub track: Collection Development and Acquisitions

Program Title: "Impact of Technology on Asian, African and the Middle Eastern Libraries and Collection".

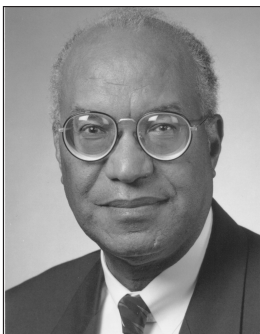
Program Date and Time: Our program will take place on Saturday, June 26th and the timeslot is from 1:30-5:30 p.m. The actual program will take place from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Budget Allocation: ACRL Board has allocated Funds in the amount of \$500 to our program.

Moderator of the Program: Dr. R.N. Sharma, Chair of the AAMES/ACRL.

Distinguished Speakers:

Dr. Mohammed M. Aman, Professor, School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee



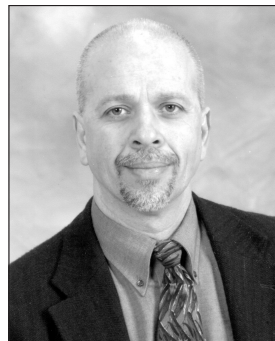
Dr. Mohammed M. Aman

Dr. C.C. Chen, Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston, MA.



Dr. C.C. Chen

Dr. James J. Natsis, Coordinator of International Studies, Head, International Programs, West Virginia State University



Dr. James J. Natsis

Ms. Kay Raseroka, President, IFLA, and University Librarian, University of Botswana, Gabrone, Botswana, Africa



Ms. Kay Raseroka

Outline of the Program

- Welcome address
- Introduction by the moderator
- 20-25 minute talk by each Speaker
- Question and Answer Session
- Closing Remark by the Speakers
- Final Wrap up

Co-sponsors: The committee has been successful in securing following sponsors for the program: APAPLA, CALA, Black Caucus, International Relations Committee of ACRL, African American Studies Section of ACRL, International Relations Round Table (IRRT)/ALA

Report of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee

(Reported by Sarah Elman, Catalog Coordinator, East Asia Library, Yale University, and Chair Constitution & Bylaws Committee, AAMES)

ACRL approved the AAMES bylaws revision proposal as written at the ALA 2004 Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, California. Under the direction of the AAMES Chair, Dr. Ravi Sharma, the Committee continues to working on further revisions and additions to the bylaws to provide guidelines for standing as well as ad hoc committees. A draft has been distributed to the AAMES Executive Committee members for comments. The Committee plans to submit a final version for official approval by the Executive Committee at the ALA 2004 Annual Conference. It will then go through the proper channel for final approval by ACRL.

Bylaws Committee (Revised: January 2004)

Article 1: Name

The name of this section shall be the Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section (AAMES) of the Association

of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

Article 2: Object

The Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section represents librarians and specialists in the fields of Asian, African and Middle Eastern area studies and acts for ACRL, in cooperation with other professional groups, in those areas of library service that require knowledge of Asian, African and Middle Eastern languages and cultures.

Article 3: Membership

Any member of the Association of College and Research Libraries may select membership in the Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section. Every personal member of the Section has the right to vote and is eligible to hold office.

Article 4: Officers

Section 1: Enumeration

- The officers of this Section shall be: Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair-elect, Secretary, Immediate Past Chair, and three Members-at-Large.

Section 2: Terms of Office

1. **Chair:** The Chair serves for one year and is not eligible for consecutive terms.
2. **Chair-elect:** The Chair-elect serves as Vice-Chair for one year. At its expiration, or earlier in case of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice-Chair succeeds to the office Chair.
3. **Secretary:** The secretary is elected for a term of two years.
4. **Members-at-Large:** Each Member-at-Large is elected for a term of two years. Members-at-Large shall be elected to overlapping terms and may be re-elected for one additional term.

All officers shall begin their terms of office at the adjournment of the Annual Conference and are to remain

in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Article 5: Meetings

The annual meeting of the Section shall be held at the time and place of the annual conference of ALA. Other meetings may be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Members of the Section present at an annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article 6: Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the officers of the section. The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected so as to assure broad representation of the various regions (Africa, Asia and the Middle East).

Article 7: Other Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

- Standing committees may be established by the Executive Committee to consider matters of the Section that require continuity of attention by the members. When such a committee is established, its function, name, and size shall be determined at the time of its authorization.
- Full members of standing committees shall be appointed for terms of two years and may be re-appointed for a second, but not a third consecutive term. Appointment shall be made in such a manner as to provide continuity in membership.
- The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect shall appoint committee members to fill the vacancies due to occur during his or her term as Chair. The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect shall also designate the chairpersons of all committees which shall function during his or her term as Chair of the section. Unexpected vacancies on a committee shall be filled by a special appointment made by the Chair of the Section.
- A committee may be discontinued only by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Special (Ad Hoc) Committees

- Special (ad hoc) committees for the performance of particular assignments may be appointed at any time by the Chair of the Section after consultation with other members of the Executive Committee.
- Such special committees shall be discontinued at the end of the term of the Chair who appointed them unless extended by the new Chair.

Article 8: General Provisions

Wherever these Bylaws make no specific provisions, the organization and procedures of the Section shall correspond to those set forth in the ACRL Constitution and Bylaws.

Article 9: Vacancies

Section 1.

- If the office of Chair becomes vacant, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect will succeed and serve until the expiration of the year for which that person was elected.

Section 2.

- If the office of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect becomes vacant, two candidates shall be elected at the next election. The person having the largest number of votes will take the office of chair immediately and the other will serve as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect.
- If the office of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect becomes vacant within six months of the beginning of the term, the office of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect may be filled by appointment made by the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

- If the office of Secretary becomes vacant, the vacancy will be filled by appointment made by the Executive Committee.

Section 4.

- If the office of Member-at-Large becomes vacant, the vacancy will

be filled by appointment made by the Executive Committee.

Nomination Committee

John A. Eilts, Chair- AAMES Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee members conducted business via email in order to meet the ALA deadline for ballots. After much difficulty in finding members who were able and willing to run for office, the committee was finally able to appeal to the loyalty of a few members to run for offices beginning after annual conference in 2004. The candidates are: Vice-chair/Chair-elect - Cynthia Tysick; Secretary - Doris Seeley; Members-at-Large - Kristen Kern and Lokman I. Meho.

Special Task force on Multilingual Thesauri

The Task Force members met at the first meeting at Westin Horton Plaza Hotel, San Diego on Saturday January 10, 2004. Members reviewed the charge of the Special Task force on Multilingual Thesauri within the Asian, African and Middle Eastern Section (AAMES, citing relevant parts from the AAMES 2001 and 2002 annual meetings minutes. They brainstormed session referring to four elements calling for consideration by the Task Force: translation, transliteration, vernacular, and authority control. It was suggested that the Task Force should define a manageable course of actions to respond to a certain clearly focused part within the broad charge (Submitted by Sushila Shah).

Asian Studies

Portal to Asian Internet Resources (PAIR): The Portal to Asian Internet Resources (PAIR) is a cooperative project of The Ohio State University Libraries, the University of Minnesota Libraries, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. The project provides a user-friendly, searchable catalog through which

patrons have quick and easy access to high quality Web resources originating in Asia identified, evaluated, selected and cataloged by area library specialists. The catalog offers an entry point to quality Asian materials that too often are neither easily identifiable nor usable due to the limitations of existing search engines. Materials support research and teaching in higher education and benefit scholars who do not have ready access to the expertise of area library specialists and collections of major research libraries as well as business, government and media professionals and other audiences. For more information, please visit: <http://webcat.library.wisc.edu:3200/PAIR/index.html>.

BiblioLine: The online version of the All India Index to English Books in Print is now available through subscription via BibliLine. It is a useful resource for finding information about Indian books published between 1950- Feb 2004. This can be accessed for more information through NISC home page at <http://www.nisc.com>.

Asian Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: A rich resource for knowledge and information (Contributed by Dr. Rajwant Chilana, Associate Professor of Library Administration and South Asian Studies Librarian University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

The University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign is the world's largest public university library with a collection of more than 22 million items, that includes 10 million volumes, over 12 million non-print items, and around 45,000 periodicals and journals. There are about 10,000 online research resources that include electronic journals, articles indexes and abstracts, statistical resources, maps, newspapers, online books and government publications.

The library provides excellent information services to students, faculty, researchers and visiting scholars through its more than 40 departmental libraries.

The Asian library, located in the Main Library building, is one of the major departmental libraries under the area studies division of the library system. The library is highly renowned for the depth and breadth of its collections and services. It has excellent printed and electronic resources that support teaching and research in the Asian studies. The library collects Asian vernacular materials in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Indic, Arabic, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Thai. The South Asian collection contains books and serials in Assamese, Bengali, Burmese, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Pali, Prakrit, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Sinhalese, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and other dialects. While Middle Eastern languages include Arabic, Persian, Pushto, Turkish and others. The Asian library collection currently contains over 370,000 volumes, including 230,000 in East Asian languages and 140,000 in South Asian and Middle Eastern languages. Also there is a large selection of Asian videos and DVDs that are housed in the Undergraduate library, while music CDs in various Asian languages are available in the Music Special Collection. Reference service and orientation is provided at the Asian library where patrons can find the language specialists who can assist them in using the collections and services.

In order to provide better service to library users and to access materials in Chinese language, the Asian library has adopted Chinese Romanization in Pinyin. That system has already been the standard for the United States Government for more than two decades; it is also the standard

used by the United Nations and most of the world's media. Display of Chinese, Japanese and Korean characters will be available soon on the library online catalogue.

The library's collection concentrates on Asian vernacular materials and supporting reference material in English, and is easily accessible from the unit's reading room, which is adjacent to the portion of the central book stacks containing the Asian collections. By providing vernacular and reference materials and service, the Asian Library directly serves different departments such as Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, and the Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (PSAMES). The English language material on Asia supports teaching and research in all other departments such as anthropology, education, history, music, art and architecture, political science and business.

For more information please visit: <http://door.library.uiuc.edu/asx/index.html>

African Studies

Program of the ALC Spring Conference: The Africana Librarians Council (ALC) will have its Spring Conference at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor from May 6 to 8, 2004. Following is the program of events:

Thursday, May 6

1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

ABPR Annual Bibliography group

2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Presentations:

- "Globalization and the Information Society: Implications for Africa and the Developing World," *Professor Derrick L. Cogburn, School of Information, U of M*
- "Merging Preservation and Access: Transforming Our

Collections and Our Roles" *John Price Wilkin, Associate University Librarian, Library Information Technology, University Library, U of M*

- "The JSTOR Archive and Strategies for Providing Greater Access to Academic and Research Libraries in Developing Nations" *Rahim S. Rajan, Assistant Director, International Library Relations, JSTOR*
- "The e-Granary: A Model for Sustainable Access to Electronic Resources in African Universities" *Edward A. Miner, International Studies Bibliographer, University of Iowa Libraries*

6:00 p.m.–8 p.m.

Welcome Reception, Room 1636 (1st Floor)

Friday, May 7

8:30 a.m.–9:55 a.m.

Title VI/Cooperative Activities

10:05 a.m.–11:25 a.m.

Cataloging Committee

10:05 a.m.–11:25 a.m.

Book Donations Committee

11:30 a.m.–12 noon

ALC Executive Committee

12 noon–1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m.–2:55 p.m.

Bibliography Committee

3:05 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

ALC Business Meeting

5:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

ALC Executive Committee

6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Dinner at the Reference Room (2nd Floor), Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library

Saturday, May 8

8:00 a.m.–8:55 a.m.

CAMP Executive Meeting

9:05 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

CAMP Business Meeting

11:10 a.m.–noon

CAMP Executive Committee

For other details please visit: <http://www.lib.umich.edu/conferences/alc>

Middle Eastern Studies

MELA: The Middle East Librarians Association will be meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2004 in San Francisco at the Hyatt Embarcadero. The Middle East Microform Project will meet the following day at the same location. MELA has had an active Committee on Iraq Libraries (<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq.html>). A new Committee on Legal matters will be monitoring issues relating to the application of the Patriot Act and its effect on libraries and library users, as well as similar issues.

MELA endorsed the proposed changes to the Kurdish romanization written by Michael Chayat of LC. The rules were subsequently approved by the CCAAM if LC receives no significant objections after publication in CSB. (Reported by John A. Eilts, Curator for Middle East, Stanford University Libraries).

Forthcoming Conferences

ALA Annual Conference: The 2004 Annual Conference of the American Library Association will be held in Orlando, FL from June 24-30, 2004. The exhibits will be held from June 26-29, 2004 in the Orange County Convention Center. Please visit: http://www.ala.org/Content/ContentGroups/Events_and_Conferences2/Annual/AN2004/home.htm

The Second International Conference on the Future of the Book will be held at the Beijing Friendship Hotel in Beijing, China, from 29-31 August 2004. This conference will address a range of critically important

themes relating to the future of the book, as well as its past and the state of the book industry, books and reading today. For additional information please visit: <http://book-conference.com/Background/index.html>

ASIS&T Conference: American Society for Information Science & Technology 2004 Annual Meeting will be held from November 13-18, 2004 at Providence, Rhode Island. The theme of this event is "Managing and enhancing information: Cultures and conflicts". For more information: <http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM04/am04call.html>.

IFLA Annual Conference: World Library and Information Congress: 70th IFLA General Conference and Council will be held from August 22 - 27 2004 at Buenos Aires, Argentina. The theme is "Libraries: Tools for Education and Development". For more details please visit: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm>.

Joint Conference on Digital Libraries [JCDL]: June 7-11, 2004, Tucson, Arizona, USA, <http://www.jcdl2004.org/>

e-Society-2004: IADIS International Conference, Avila, Spain, 16-19 July 2004: The IADIS e-Society 2004 conference aims to address the main issues of concern within the Information Society. This conference covers both the technical as well as the non-technical aspects of the Information Society. Broad areas of interest are eGovernment / eGovernance, eBusiness / eCommerce, eLearning, eHealth, Information Systems, and Information Management

LITA 2004: 10 Years of Connectivity: Libraries, the World Wide Web, and the Next Decade: October 7-10, 2004, Missouri, USA-

Members Contributions

Dr. Rajwant S. Chilana has pub-

lished a research paper on "South Asian Studies- Networks and Web Resources" in the latest issue (February 2004) of the *Asian Studies Newsletter*. It contains a comprehensive coverage of useful web sites on various aspects of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Internationalization of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules: AACR2 "in" Vietnamese : Contributed by Binh P. Le, Associate Librarian at the Penn State University Library, Abington Campus, and Chair of the Membership Committee, AAMES.

The translation of the AACR2 into Vietnamese began several years ago after several members of the Library and Education Foundation for Vietnam (LEAF-VN), a U.S. based non-profit organization consisted of mostly Vietnamese overseas librarians, visited Vietnam and concluded that Vietnamese libraries needed to establish, among many other things, standardized library practices especially on cataloguing.

Recognizing Vietnamese libraries' urgent need to standardize cataloguing practices, LEAF-VN sought and received the permission from the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, and the Association (British), to translate the AACR2 (1988) edition by Michael Gorman into Vietnamese. However, it was not until the early of 2003 that the foundation obtained the necessary funds, mostly through individual donations to pay for the printing costs. Mr. Michael Gorman not only donated some money to the translation project but also enthusiastically wrote the *Preface* to the Vietnamese edition. All in all, 1800 copies were printed and donated to Vietnamese libraries in 2003.

To elucidate and encourage the use of AACR2, LEAF-VN and the National Library of Vietnam have organized a

workshop for Vietnamese librarians to be held in Hanoi this summer. The presenters of the workshop include Ms. Le-Huong Pham (co-translator; the other co-translator is Lam Vinh The who, due to previous commitment, will not participate in the workshop as planned) and several American librarians from the Library of Congress all of whom volunteer their time and expertise to go to Vietnam to conduct the workshop.

The translation of the AACR2 into Vietnamese represents not only a great effort and dedication among Vietnamese overseas librarians who wanted to help to improve the effectiveness and quality of library services in their native country's undeveloped libraries but also shows a great commitment and noble endeavor of international library organizations such as the ALA, CLA, and the like to foster library development around the world. It is also worth noting that the ALA had also granted Vietnamese overseas librarians the permission to translate *The ALA Glossary of Library and Information Science* by Heartsill Young, ed., into Vietnamese in 1996.

Publications

Diverse Face of Asians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County

The Asian Pacific American Legal Center and the United Way have released a report "The Diverse Face of Asians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County". It provides detailed information on 15 different Asian and Pacific Islander groups in Los Angeles County. Data is included on age, household size, homeownership, education, income, public assistance, poverty, language spoken at home, English proficiency, citizenship, health insurance coverage, HIV/AIDS, infant mortality, and more. The report compares certain findings with data on the state and nation and provides policy recommendations. The details can be found at:

http://www.unitedwayla.org/pages/rpts_resource/ethnic_profiles/ASP_Report.pdf

Volunteer Opportunities

AAMES needs a volunteer to serve as Webmaster: Cynthia Tysick's terms as the AAMES webmaster will be over at Annual Conference this year. The Section is looking for someone to replace her. You don't

have to know html because ALA has moved to a web development system call "Content Management System" (CMS) that allows you to enter the information online and be immediately updated. If you know html that would be a bonus in case AAMES develops other web pages away from the ALA website. However, you will need to attend a training session held during Annual that would introduce you to CMS and set up your user name and

password. The Webmaster position is part of the Executive & Publishing committees and runs for a 2 year term. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to our section and work with other members.

If anyone is interested or have further questions please email Cynthia Tysick, at cat2@buffalo.edu as soon as possible.

The AAMES newsletter is a biannual publication of the Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; 800-545-2433 ext. 2517. It is included in your ACRL/ALA membership fee.

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

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