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MALA InfoZine

The Madras Library Association's Newsletter

April – June 2007

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Member,

Greetings. It has been well and again discussed and debated in many forums that library and information professionals lack aptitude and skills. How long will we hear this cry?
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It is high time that we, professionals, realise our status and take efforts to improvise the professional image. None is singularly responsible for this sad situation. It has to be an integrated initiative to: draw the talented and dedicated professionals; guide and instruct them in the right path; adapt and learn work skills continuously and be user- friendly. We have to work out for a solution rather than make noise.

True, that we neither qualify nor compete with other professionals in the society to gain an equivalent or a better recognition and appreciation. We are much less placed, paid and praised as LIS professionals. If so, we cannot afford to blame none other than ourselves. To be fair, we need to agree, accept and analyse the issue and mend our attitudes, aptitudes and ambitions.

Let us wake up, look at things positively and march forward towards betterment and work together collectively to eliminate this undesired and unpleasant situation.

With best wishes and regards

a. amudhavalli

SUCCESS STORIES

February 2007

MALA hosted a successful workshop on Greenstone Digital Library in association with Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore from February 8 – 10, 2007. The first ever workshop organized at an outstation Institution was restricted to 30 participants on a first come first served basis. The participants were from academic, corporate and public libraries and were appreciative of the whole programme arrangements.

On February 26, 2007 Dr. Rafael Ball, Central Library of Research Centre Jülich, Germany shared his experience on Innovative Services of a Special Library. The programme was co-sponsored by the Department of Information Science, University of Madras, Chennai, Max Muller Bhavan, Chennai and Ranganathan Center for Information Studies (RCIS). More than forty LIS professionals used the opportunity to interact with Dr. Ball.

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March 2007

On March 12, 2007 LIS professionals got together to brainstorm about the Issues in Digital Libraries moderated by Dr. Harish Chandra and Dr. M. G. Sreekumar at our Vice-President Mr. Seshadri's house. More than thirty librarians from various types of libraries participated in the session and shared their views in forming digital libraries.

Keeping in mind to collaborate with various non-LIS institutions and reach out to various segments of librarianship MALA organized a lecture demonstration on Scholarly Communication in 2007 Challenges & Opportunities for the Global Biomedical & Librarian Communities by Ms. Pamela C. Sieving & Ms. Bette Anton, Bio-medical Librarian/Informationist, National Institute of Health Library Bethesda, Maryland, USA. at Sundaram Medical Foundation on March 19, 2007. The program drew more than seventy librarians and medical practitioners. Both the events were co-sponsored by RCIS.

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMS

READIT 2007

Madras Library Association – Kalpakkam Chapter is organising two day National Conference on Recent Advances in Information Science & Technology” (READIT-2007) during July 12-13 2007. MALA-KC and Scientific Information Resource Division (SIRD), IGCAR have been conducting a series of conferences on “Recent Advances in Information Science & Technology” from 1995. The proposed conference will have invited talks by experts in the field and contributed paper presentations from Researchers. A pre-conference tutorial on “*Web Tools and IT Enabled Services*” is also being arranged for the benefit of Information Professionals on July 11 2007. Please check <http://www.malac.org> for more details or write to madraslibraryassociation@gmail.com for further details.

Next Annual General Body Meeting

In its last meeting the Executive Committee has tentatively fixed the date as Sunday, August 26, 2007 to hold the Annual General Body meeting. A regular notice will follow in due course.

NATIONAL

Central Library, IIT Bombay in collaboration with IATLIS has planned to organize a **National Workshop on LIS Education in Digital Era** from June 13-15, 2007. Only 50 participants mainly LIS Teachers, full time Research Scholars and Library Administrators will be selected on first-come-first-served basis. More details can also be had at <http://www.library.iitb.ac.in>

DELNET (Developing Library Network) is organizing **NACLIN (National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking) 2007** from November 20-23, 2007 at India International Centre, New Delhi. Theme of the Convention would be ‘Libraries without boundaries: Reaching the Unreachable in Knowledge Era’. Please see www.delnet.nic.in/naclin2007brochure.doc for more details.

First **Consortium of Students in Library and Information Science** (COSLISR) is being organized by M.S Ramaiah Institute of Management, Bangalore and Digital Information Research Foundation, Chennai on May 26, 2007. Please write to A N Janardana Rao, Librarian, M. S. Ramaiah Institute of Management at jraoan@gmail.com for more details.

INDEST-AICTE **National Workshop on E-Resources Management for Excellence** during 16th to 18th July 2007 to be held at Central Library of IIT Madras in Chennai. The complete brochure can be downloaded from the link given on the Central Library main webpage under News and Events <http://www.cenlib.iitm.ac.in>

INTERNATIONAL

Internet Librarian: Information Today, Inc. presents Internet Librarian International at London in October 8-9, 2007 conference for information professionals who are using, developing, and embracing Internet, Intranet, and Web-based strategies in their roles as information architects and navigators.

5th Annual CISTM **Conference on Information Science Technology and Management** is to be held in Hyderabad from July 16-18, 2007. The Information Institute has partnered with Confederation of Indian Industry and Osmania University to be the local hosts. Log on to: www.cistm.org for more details

Join more than 2500 open source developers, gurus, experts, and users at the ninth annual **O'Reilly Open Source Convention**--five days of wall-to-wall sessions, tutorials, and events, plus the O'Reilly Radar Executive Briefing. Register now at <http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/58/register>

International Conference on Libraries 2007 (ICOL2007), the continuity of ICOL2005, will be held in conjunction with the celebration of 50 years of nationhood at Penang, Malaysia from 31 October 2007 to 2 November 2007. Please check: <http://www.lib.usm.my/elmu-equip/ICOL2007/ICOL2007.jsp> for more details.

The 10th **International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries** (ICADL) 2007 will take place from 10th to 13th December 2007 at Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The theme of the Conference would be "Asian Digital libraries: Looking back 10 Years and Forging New Frontiers". Please access <http://icadl2007.vista.gov.vn/> for details.

NEWS DESK

National Institute of Science Communication & Information Resources (NISCAIR) has announced five Research Intern Awards in Library Science under "CSIR Diamond Jubilee Research Intern Awards". You may obtain

more details and application form from <http://www.niscair.res.in>.

ISBNdb.com project is a database of books in different languages providing on-line and remote research tools for individuals, librarians, scientists, etc. Taking data from hundreds of libraries across the world ISBNdb is a unique tool you won't find anywhere else. Please check it at: <http://isbndb.com/>

"To be effective in a customer-focused company, people need to have a strong orientation toward service." *From the book: The Extraordinary Leader: Turning Good Managers Into Great Leaders* by John H. Zenger and Joseph Folkman

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Sundar, Joint-Secretary and Gnanasekar, an EC member were training staff from partner institutes of South Asia Regional Cataloguing project. The training was conducted at Centre for Study in Social Science, Calcutta from April 25-26, 2007

Please encourage your professional colleagues to become members of the MALA. Membership fee is Rs.100.00 for annual, Rs.500.00 for Life and Rs.3,000.00 for institutional members. The amount could be paid by cash/local cheque/demand draft in favour of The Madras Library Association. The registration form can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.accel-india.com/mala/0700.htm>. Please mail the filled-in application form along with the cheque/demand draft to our Treasurer Dr. G. Krishnamurthy at: No.15, Nehru Nagar, 3rd Main Road, Adyar, Chennai 600 020.

Check it out!

LIS Job Postings: <http://lis-job-opportunities.blogspot.com/>

NEW MEMBERS

We are proud to present the following new members:

Annual

Ms. P Jayalakshmi, Librarian, Rajarajeswari Engineering College, Chennai

Ms. P. J. Nirmala, Librarian, Karunya University, Coimbatore

Dr. Shameem Banu, Registrar, Sundaram Medical Foundation, Chennai

Ms. S. Usha, Librarian, S. S. Shasun Jain College, Chennai

Institutional

Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Chennai

Christian Medical College, Principal, Vellore

German Book Centre, Chennai

Life

Mr. B. Arunbaskar, Assistant Manager Information, DESH, Chennai

Mr. Bette Anton, Optometry / Health Science Librarian, University of California, USA

Mr. V Bhasker Rao, Library Information Officer, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai

Ms. S. S. Devika, Library Assistant, Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Maha Vidyalaya (Deemed University), Kanchipuram

Ms. B. Haripriya, Library Professional, Chennai

Mr. P. Jeevagan, Typist, A. M. Jain College, Chennai

Mr. V. Kalaiappan, Assistant Technical Officer, University of Madras Library, Chennai

Ms. S Maidhili, Librarian, St. Peter's Engineering College, Chennai

Mr. P. Manimozhi, Junior Officer, L & T Ramboll, Chennai

Ms. E. Nishavathi, Librarian, T. S. Narayana Swamy College, Navalur

Ms. Pamela C Sieving, Informationist, National Institute of Health, USA

Ms. G. Pramila, Librarian, St. Peters Engineering College, Chennai

Ms. K. Sangeetha, Librarian, Lalaji Memorial Omega International School, Chennai

Dr. Srikala Ravishankar, Registrar, Sundaram Medical Foundation, Chennai

Join EMALA for Latest Information

Steps to follow:

- Go to Yahoo.com and select Groups.
- By creating your own username and password Sign-Up for the Groups.
- Search for emala and again you need to fill up the form to join emala
- When you complete selecting the options, you are already inside emala!

Check it out!

100 Top Library Sites at <http://directory.100.com/?cat=Libraries>



A CLICK AWAY

What is hot in the Internet?

Web 2.0.

The term Web 2.0 was invented to call our attention to what look like serious changes in the Web ecosystem.

Web 2.0 refers to a new wave of Web applications built for user-added content that are made to change continuously to accommodate new data and technology. Before Web 2.0, programmers posted Internet content, and the exchange of information was mostly one-way. More recently, blogs, wikis, and social-networking sites have allowed ordinary users to post content online, making anyone with an Internet connection a potential resource.

A classic example of the difference between Web 1.0 and Web 2.0, cited by Tim O'Reilly, one of the original masterminds behind Web 2.0 in his 2005 article "What is Web 2.0," is the difference between Britannica Online and Wikipedia. In Web 1.0, content was written, edited, and published by a select group of people, much the same way books are published. In Web 2.0, anyone can add to the collective pool of knowledge, and anyone can access it.

Social Networks

Gone are the days when people were only consumers of information available on the Internet. Now they are the creators, People share their personal information and spend time finding about others are called Social Network sites. Some of the popular sites are: www.myspace.com, www.orkut.com and www.myface.com. Librarians worry about getting more people into the library. An easy way to do that is library professionals should sign up into these sites as a participant, preferably in the organization's name to promote the library's resources and services. For example Ms. Beth Evans of Brooklyn College Library has been selected as one of the "Movers & Shakers" of 2006 by the Library Journal just for doing that.

Photographs/Video Clippings

The Internet's major attraction, apart from information shared among authors, scientists, government agencies, and businesses, is its rich offerings in terms of sounds and graphics. Some of the popular video sites are: www.youtube.com and www.flickr.com where youth share and search for personal videos.

Mash Ups

Mashups are springing like mushrooms all over the Internet. The term mashup originated in the world of pop music to describe remixing two or more tracks to create a new song. Mashups for the Web combine two or more independent, possibly competing, data sources to make something new. For example mashing up real estate listing and maps resulted in www.HousingMaps.com and weather, Web cams and Maps resulted in

www.Weatherbonk.com. Librarians could also make use of these trends to their advantage. For example, book covers or reviews of the books could be taken from Amazon.com and post them in their own websites for the books available in their libraries.

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We welcome your contributions to the Newsletter. Programs organized by your library, awards/rewards received by you, your significant contributions to the field or simply your feedback on this publication.

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We are also looking forward to hear your suggestions/co-sponsorship of MALA events. Please write to us: madraslibraryassociation@gmail.com
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ALA offers "Best Free Reference Web Sites Combined Index, 1999-2006" at : <http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marspubs/MARSBESTIndex.htm>

LIFE IS LIKE THAT



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E-mail: randyg@norwich.net

"Hello, Bob? It's your father again.
I have another question about my new computer.
Can I tape a movie from cable TV then fax it from my VCR to my CD-ROM then E-mail it to my brother's cellular phone so he can make a copy on his neighbor's camcorder?"

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