



Library Association of Ireland

Academic & Special Libraries Section



Annual Report

July 2012 to June 2013

Library Association of Ireland Academic & Special Libraries Section

Presented to the

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 20th June, 2013

Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson St, Dublin 2

The Academic & Special Libraries Section (A&SL) functions within the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) to cater for the needs of librarians and 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 information professionals and carries out this remit through the provision of seminars, workshops, talks and visits. These activities are open to all members of the LAI and are advertised on the LAI website, Leabharlann-E, on the A&SL Section e-mail discussion group and via our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Overview

Once again it has been a busy year for the committee. As you will see below we have organised a range of events during the past year which have proved to be very successful. This is illustrated by the fact that we had to close registration for the Annual Seminar a week early.

The year has been marked by collaboration and innovation. We jointly organised events in association with Trinity College Library and the Trinity College Disability Service, the LAI Health Sciences Library Group (HSLG) and LAI Career Development Group (CDG). Innovations included live streaming of the annual seminar via HEANet and the joint organisation of the first Irish Library Camp (LibCamp) in May. We also welcomed a new committee member, Laura Rooney Ferris, Librarian Irish Hospice Foundation.

Committee members and officers

Chairperson

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

Secretary

Marie G. Cullen (National University of Ireland Maynooth)

Treasurer

Seán Hughes (Trinity College Dublin)

Members

Jennifer Collery (University College Dublin)
Aoife Connolly (PricewaterhouseCoopers)
Jessica Eustace-Cook (Trinity College Dublin)
Margaret Irons (School of Celtic Studies, DIAS)
Áine Carey (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland)
Erin O'Mahony (Houses of the Oireachtas)
Ann O'Sullivan (Houses of the Oireachtas)
Laura Rooney Ferris (Irish Hospice Foundation)
Caitríona Sharkey (Ernst & Young).

Committee meetings, members and roles

The committee met on 10 occasions between August 2012 and May 2013. This included 10 committee meetings, the AGM on the 21st June and a strategic planning meeting in July to plan the year ahead. Committee members attended Council meetings and meetings of officers.

Laura Rooney Ferris, Librarian Irish Hospice Foundation, was co-opted on to the committee in July and attended her first meeting in October, bringing committee membership up to its maximum of twelve.

In September 2012, Jennifer Collery resigned from her position as Treasurer. Seán Hughes took over the role with immediate effect. Jennifer became the Treasurer in June 2011. The Committee would like to thank her for her commitment to the role of Treasurer and thank Seán for taking on the role. Jennifer continued as a member of the Committee.

First Irish Library Camp “LibCamp” 25th May 2013

The first Irish Library Camp took place on May 25th 2013 at the Chocolate Factory in the former Williams & Woods building on Kings Inn Street, Dublin 1. This was jointly organised by the A&SL and the CDG. 70 plus people attended on the day. To help the flow of ideas participants were asked to bring cake. This proved to be a successful and enjoyable part of the day.

Library Camp is an unconference. Unconferences have no keynote speaker and do not have a running order. At Library Camp the participants lead the agenda for the day by making suggestions or ‘session pitches.’ Three committee members made pitches and presented on the day

Aoife Connolly “Never judge a Librarian by their cover: looking beyond job titles”

Laura Rooney Ferris “Going it alone; Solo & specialist librarianship”

Marie G. Cullen “Professional development underpins every successful career”

Overall this was an exciting and enjoyable day and the A&SL were delighted to be involved.

Further details at <http://laicdg.wordpress.com/2013/05/01/library-camp-ireland/>

A&SL Careers Breakfast, SILS UCD April 15th 2013

The Careers Breakfast was facilitated by two A&SL Committee members Áine Carey, Assistant Librarian, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Laura Rooney Ferris, Librarian, Irish Hospice Foundation.

The guest speakers were:

Holly Fawcett, Digital Marketing Executive, Social Talent www.socialtalent.co

Jane Burns, Information Manager, Temple Street, Children's Hospital and former A&SL Committee member

Giada Gelli, Assistant Librarian, National Gallery and Chair LAI CDG

2013 Annual Seminar 1st March 2013

The Academic & Special Libraries Section Annual Seminar entitled "**Content Creators – The Digital Frontier**" took place at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Dublin.

Sponsors were IEEE, EBSCO, ProQuest and OCLC and exhibitors were ExLibris, Ingram and Anybook.biz. We very much appreciate the support of our sponsors and exhibitors.

Approximately 120 people attended. The keynote speaker was Simon Tanner (Department of Digital Humanities, King's College London); Deputy Head of Department and Director of Digital Consulting. Our Facebook and Twitter accounts featured speaker, sponsor and exhibitor spotlights. These spotlights along with an excellent range of speakers and topics generated demand for places. Demand was so great, we closed registration for the seminar a week early.

For the first time this year the seminar was live streamed by HEANet. The videos were edited by HEANet and made available to us. The videos and presentations from the day are available at http://academicandspeciallibraries.blogspot.ie/p/presentations_8.html. The twitter stream proved a very popular way of following and commenting on the day and the hashtag #asl2013 trended throughout the day.

Annual General Meeting 21st June 2012

The AGM was held at the Royal Irish Academy. The guest speaker was Dr. Jason McElligott, Keeper, Marsh's Library. Dr. McElligott gave a very interesting overview of his role as keeper, the history of Marsh's Library and some of its collections.

Networking Evenings

The programme of informal networking evenings continued in 2012/2013. These evenings provide librarians and information professionals, from all sectors, with an opportunity to meet in an informal setting and to share news, views and experiences and of course to socialise.

A&SL and HSLG Christmas/New Year Joint Networking Evening 24th January 2013

The Joint Committees of the A&SL Section and the HSLG held the annual Joint Christmas/New Year Networking Evening in the Royal Irish Academy. The guest speaker was Eibhlin Roche, Archive Manager, Guinness Storehouse. The Joint Committees hosted a Drinks Reception.

€225.96 was collected on the night for Laura Lynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice.

Trinity College Disability Service 13th September 2012

The committee of the A&SL Section, in association with Trinity College Library and the Trinity College Disability Service, hosted an evening entitled "*Trinity Inclusive Library – a project on making the Library of Trinity College, Dublin and its services more inclusive*".

Speakers included Jessie Kurtz, Deputy Librarian, Trinity College Library and Michelle Garvey, TCD's Disability Services Office. The evening included a short tour of Trinity College Library and was followed by refreshments at The Long Stone Pub.

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

Website

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

Social media

Twitter @ASLIBRARIES

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

Joining the A&SL Section of the LAI

To join the A&SL Section, tick A&SL on the LAI membership renewal form

Thank You

Thank to our members for your ongoing support throughout this and other years.