



**Annual Report 2019**

**Presented to the  
Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday 15 January 2020**

**BOI Workbench, Hamilton Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2**

**Committee Officers and Members 2019**

**Chairperson:** David Hughes (Education and Training Boards Ireland)

**Hon. Secretary:** Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education)

**Hon. Treasurer:** Gerard Connolly (TU Dublin – Tallaght Campus)

**Communications Officer:** Laura Rooney-Ferris (HSE/National Health Library & Knowledge Service HSE)

**Committee Members:**

Máire Caffrey (Teagasc)

Jean Earley (McCann FitzGerald)

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

Lisa Lambert (CRANN)

Fiona Logan (Institute of Art and Design)

Susan Brodigan (Contemporary Centre for Music, Ireland)

Christina McGuckian (UCD)

Deirdre McGuinness (William Fry)

### **Overview**

2019 saw the Academic & Special Libraries Section Committee bid farewell to some longstanding members and welcome new members from academic and special libraries. We organised several networking and CPD events which were very well received. The Annual Conference & Exhibition held in March 2019 was sold out and attained a high level of interest from companies and organisations sponsoring the conference. The entire Committee worked very hard on the conference and received overwhelmingly positive feedback in its wake.

### **Committee meetings and membership**

The Committee met on 11 occasions in 2019. This included 9 Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting in January and a strategic planning meeting in June to plan the year ahead.

Two new members joined the Committee in 2019, Fiona Logan (IADT) and Susan Brodigan (Contemporary Music Centre Ireland). This year also sees some turnover of membership. The Committee is deeply saddened to note the departure of Marie Cullen, Sarah Connolly and Marie O'Neill. Marie Cullen as outgoing chair (and one of the longest-standing committee members), has contributed much to the Committee over the course of her membership, and all will be greatly missed. Replacing them on the Committee will be Johannah Duffy (Marino Institute of Education) and Sue Miller (DCU).

## **AGM 2019**

The 2019 AGM was held in BOI Workbench, Hamilton Building, Trinity College, on Wednesday 23rd January, 2019. Our guest speaker for the event was Gemma Sexton from Dublin City Council Culture Company who gave a fascinating talk on the museum project at 14 Henrietta Street and its citizen-led 'Dublin Connects' initiatives.

## **A&SL Section events for 2019**

### **A&SL Section's Annual Conference & Exhibition, March 2019**

The A&SL 2019 Annual Conference & Exhibition, "*Library - Space, Place, or State of Mind?*" took place on Friday 29th March 2019, Wood Quay Venue, Dublin 8. Addressing the theme were thought-provoking keynotes from Christian Lauersen, Director of libraries and citizen services in Roskilde Municipality, and Karen Latimer, from the IFLA Library Buildings & Equipment Standing Committee. We had lots of interesting case studies and a poster competition, which was won by Mícheál Ó hAodha & Michelle Breen (University of Limerick). This was followed by an engaging panel discussion with the audience and a drinks and nibbles reception in the Bull & Castle.

### **A&SL & HSLG Joint Informal Summer Event July 2019: Visit to Henrietta St**

In a follow-up event from the Section's AGM in January, the HSLG and A&SL co-organised a summer visit to 14 Henrietta Street on Friday the 25th July 2019. Set in a Georgian townhouse, 14 Henrietta Street tells the story of the buildings' shifting fortunes, from family home and powerbase to courthouse, from barracks to its final incarnation as a tenement house. The event was followed by networking in the Black Sheep pub.

### **WRSLAI & A&SL Joint CPD event: Skills and Professional Development (AIT)**

On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> October, the Western Region and Academic & Special Libraries Sections of the LAI along with A&SL held a networking event on skills and professional development, followed by a tour of the AIT library.

Our very special thanks to all members who attended 2019 events.

## **Librarians Aloud**

The A&SL 'Librarians Aloud' podcast series now consists of twenty seven episodes of librarians talking about their career paths, what they love about the profession and where the information profession is going.

Three new episodes came online in 2019

### **Episode 25: School Librarians Claire Ní Neachtain and Andrea Dillon**

**Episode 26: Christian Lauersen**, Director of libraries and citizen services in Roskilde Municipality

**Episode 27: Tim Lentz**, Hastings Public Library

Special thanks to Laura Rooney-Ferris for this series. All episodes available at

<https://soundcloud.com/librariansaloud/sets/librarians-aloud-episodes>

## **Bursaries**

The Committee once again awarded two bursaries for full delegate attendance to the A&SL Section's Annual Conference & Exhibition 2019: Catherine Ahearne, Library Assistant, Maynooth University and Lisa Cradden, Assistant Librarian, Maynooth University.

We also awarded a bursary to Noreen McHugh to attend the 2019 joint LAI CILIP Conference. Both conference reports were published in *An Leabharlann*.

## **Attendance at LAI Executive Board Meetings and LAI Council Events**

Dr. Eva Hornung attended the LAI 2019 AGM and is the Convenor of the Continuing Professional Development Committee.

## **Attendance and Presentations at Conferences and Training Events**

### **February**

Jean Earley attended a BIALL Irish Group meeting on 27 February 2019 in Trinity College Dublin.

David Hughes attended the IFLA Special Interest Group (SIG) on Library Publishing, 2019 Midterm Meeting from February 28th – March 1st in Dublin Business School. April

### **April**

Laura Rooney Ferris presented at the Athlone Institute of Technology research repository launch on the 5<sup>th</sup> April.

Laura Rooney Ferris delivered a workshop on Podcasting for research dissemination on the 5<sup>th</sup> April in Athlone Institute of Technology.

### **May**

Deirdre McGuinness attended the BIALL (British and Irish Association of Law Librarians) Professional Development Committee's course on "Knowledge Management and Intranets" in May.

David Hughes was Co-chair of KohaCon 2019, held in Dublin Business School from May 20<sup>th</sup> - May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Laura Rooney Ferris presented at KohaCon 2019, May 20<sup>th</sup> - May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Dublin Business School.

### **June**

Genevieve Larkin attended a workshop organised by The National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in higher education titled "Developing Enabling Policies for Digital and Open Teaching and Learning" on the 13th June in NUI Galway.

Genevieve Larkin attended a workshop organised by CONUL (the Consortium of National and University Libraries) titled “Planning & Developing Digital and Open Scholarship Services” in the RCSI on the 25th June.

## **July**

Susan Brodigan presented a paper at the IAML (International Association of Music Librarians) International Congress held in Krakow from the 14-19 July, titled “Digitally preserving an island’s musical identity.”

## **September**

David Hughes attended “Digital Technologies and Education: Keeping up with the pace of change” on the 6<sup>th</sup> September in the UCD Humanities Institute.

## **October**

Laura Rooney Ferris attended the 5 nations Health Library Leaders Seminar 2019 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October in Birmingham.

David Hughes attended the Regulation of Irish Higher Education on the 8<sup>th</sup> October in RCSI.

Laura Rooney Ferris attended the WRSLAI and A&SL event “Skills and Professional Development in AIT Library” on the 11<sup>th</sup> October.

David Hughes facilitated a workshop at the WRSLAI and A&SL event “Skills and Professional Development” in AIT Library on the 11<sup>th</sup> October.

## Communications

Members can join our emailing list by sending an e-mail to [aslsectionevents@gmail.com](mailto:aslsectionevents@gmail.com).

## Websites

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

<https://www.libraryassociation.ie/academic-and-special-libraries-section/>

## 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.

**A photo of Committee members at the A&SL Section's Annual Conference & Exhibition, March 2019, with the LAI president Marian Higgins:**

