



UPDATE CPDWL NEWSLETTER

January 2025 / International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. CPDWL Section #43

Inside this Issue

Message from the Chair

CPDWL Podcast Highlights

Empowering Librarians: Exploring
Leadership in a time of change

New CPDWL blog posts: insights and
contributions

Libraries for a greener future webinar

Workshop success: CPDWL mentoring
mysteries; unlocking your potential

CPDWL's role in advancing learning
and development

Basic Building Blocks of Librarianship:
Small Steps to Bridge the Skills Gap of
Library Workers

Enhancing Open Science Initiative in
the MENA region

Collaborate on Revising Multicultural
Communities Guidelines

CPDWL Officers and SC Members to
January 2025

Welcome Message

By Helen Man Yi Chan,
Chair of CPDWL Section

Dear IFLA Colleagues and Friends,

I am thrilled to share updates on our recent and upcoming activities. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the CPDWL Officers, Core Administrative Group Members, and Standing Committee Members for their tremendous efforts.



In addition, many thanks to the six Regional Division Committee Chairs of IFLA for their unwavering support in making our webinar series more inclusive and accessible to colleagues worldwide. Their contributions have significantly enhanced professional development opportunities for our global community.

Special thanks go to:

- Lin Li Soh, Chair of the IFLA Asia-Oceania Regional Division
- Ertuğrul Çimen, Chair of the IFLA Europe Regional Division
- Jeannette Lebrón Ramos, Chair of the IFLA Latin America and Caribbean Regional Division
- Saif AlJabri, Chair of the IFLA Middle East and North Africa Regional Division
- Diane Koen, Chair of the IFLA North America Regional Division
- Ayanda Lebele, Chair of the Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Division

Additionally, I am excited to highlight our ongoing collaborations with IFLA's Management and Marketing (M&M), Education and Training (SET), Library Theory and Research (LTR), Knowledge Management (KM), Library Services to Multicultural Populations (MCULTP), and Subject Analysis and Access (SAA) Sections. Together, we are preparing a series of engaging events leading up to and during the World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2025. These partnerships are critical to advancing CPDWL's mission of empowering library professionals through lifelong learning.

Thank you for your continued support in achieving our shared goals.

CPDWL Podcast Highlights from 2024

The [CPDWL Podcast Project](#) continued to deliver insightful conversations with library leaders worldwide in 2024 under the leadership of Jarkko Rikkilä. Here's a recap of this year's episodes:

S6E1: Michael (Bailou) Huang

In this episode, hosted in Mandarin Chinese, Michael Huang, SUNY Distinguished Librarian and Director of Global Library Initiatives at Stony Brook University Libraries, shared his perspectives on fostering global collaboration in libraries. He emphasized the importance of cultural exchange and innovative practices in shaping future library services.


S6E2: Tina Haglund and Jorun Systad


Hosted in English, this episode featured Tina Haglund from Sweden and Jorun Systad from Norway, both CPDWL Standing Committee members. They discussed their experiences managing public libraries, offering insights into leadership, community engagement, and professional development in Scandinavian libraries.


S6E3: Vadim Duda

Vadim Duda, President of the Russian Library Association and Director General of the Russian State Library, reflected on opportunities and challenges for libraries globally. He highlighted the significance of embracing innovation, maintaining relevance for younger generations, and fostering global communication.

All episodes are available on Spotify "CPDWL Podcast Project". Tune in to explore these valuable discussions!

 for Creators


Log in Sign up 







CPDWL Podcast Project




By IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section

In this podcast conversation, we speak with library leaders to get their perspectives and thoughts on the profession. Read more about us here: www.ifla.org/cpdwl



Available on

Empowering Librarians: Exploring Leadership in an era of change at DILC 2024

By Heba Mohamed Ismail, Vice – President of the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Library (MBRL) in Dubai is an initiative designed to fulfill the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and the Ruler of Dubai. His vision aims to foster a knowledge-based society¹.

The library's primary mission is to ignite a passion for knowledge throughout the UAE. It strives to inspire future generations by promoting Arabic literature, culture, and heritage, alongside encouraging creativity, entrepreneurship, and research. By providing open access to a vast range of resources, the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library aims to support lifelong learning and help cultivate a culture of intellectual exploration.

The **MBRL** hosted the Dubai International Library Conference **2024 conference (DILC)** for the first time, marking a significant milestone in its journey as a cultural and intellectual hub. The conference, which brought together global leaders, experts, and professionals in the library and information science fields, was an ideal event to be held within such an innovative space within Dubai and the wider UAE, making the library a central hub for education, culture, and intellectual growth.



The DILC 2024, held from November 15 to 17, under the theme ***“Our Libraries: Past, Present, Future,”*** gathered global thought leaders, library professionals, and innovators to explore the evolving role of libraries in a digital age. It was an inspiring and enriching experience to engage with colleagues from diverse backgrounds and discuss the future of libraries and the vital role of leadership in navigating these changes. The theme of the conference, addressed a wide

¹ <http://dilc.mbri.ae/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/DILC-2024-Conference-Catalogue-English.pdf>

range of topics—from leadership in libraries to the use of new technologies and the importance of community engagement.

As part of the conference, I had the privilege of leading a session entitled ***“Empowering Librarians: Exploring Leadership in an Era of Change.”*** The session emphasized the evolving role of libraries and the need for leadership that can navigate the complexities of modern library services. It aimed to address the ever-evolving landscape of libraries. The presentation discussed how libraries are dynamic centers of knowledge, culture, and community. The increasing reliance on technology and the ever-changing societal landscape has made it crucial for library leaders to innovate and adapt in order to remain relevant. Libraries have traditionally been viewed as repositories of knowledge, often symbolized by rows of books. However, in the 21st century, libraries now serve as hubs for digital literacy, community engagement, and the preservation of cultural heritage. The evolving needs of communities’ demand that libraries offer more than just books—they must be places where people can access information, foster creativity, engage in lifelong learning, and connect with others. This shift requires innovative leadership. Library leaders must continuously assess and adapt to the changing demands of their communities. This is where the need for effective leadership becomes critical, as we navigate technology integration, diverse community needs, and evolving resource management.

My session explored some of the most pressing challenges facing libraries today and also highlighted the professional development cycle, emphasizing the importance of leadership. It stressed the need to evolve by fostering leadership skills and providing professional development opportunities to keep pace with technological advancements, community needs, and organizational changes. Additionally, the session addressed the consequences of neglecting professional development.



As part of my presentation, some professional development programmes were highlighted to enhance librarians’ leadership potential including:

1. ***The International Network of Emerging Library Innovators – Middle East and North Africa (INELI-MENA)²***: e-learning opportunities for librarians to connect with peers across the MENA region, share insights, and collaborate on projects. It is a great resource for emerging library leaders to gain inspiration and advice from seasoned professionals.
2. ***WebJunction³***: It provides access to learning opportunities that cover a wide range of topics, from digital literacy to organizational management. The resources available through WebJunction are designed to equip librarians with the skills they need to adapt to the changing landscape of libraries and take on leadership roles in their institutions.
3. ***Core⁴***: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures is the national association that advances librarians and information providers in central roles of buildings & operations, leadership & management, metadata & collections, and technology. Core delivers mentoring, learning, networking, and leadership opportunities across library types and experience levels.
4. ***Turning the page⁵***: It was originally developed in 2007 by the Public Library Association (PLA) in the United States in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, working closely with advocacy training specialists. It includes an Advocacy Training Implementation Guide—a recommended read before diving into the curriculum—and a set of 15 training sessions that each includes a trainer script, PowerPoint presentation, and handouts. A workbook accompanies the training so participants can develop an action advocacy plan for their library in real-time.
5. ***Stepping into leadership⁶***: Originally developed as part of the Carnegie Library Lab (CLL), created by the Carnegie UK Trust (CUKT) to encourage creativity, innovation and leadership in public libraries in the UK and Ireland, this course can be accessed by those working in the library and information sector.
6. ***IFLA CPDWL Section⁷***: The Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning (CPDWL) Section embraces all aspects of professional development and learning in the workplace from post-qualification to end of career.

Through leadership training and professional development programs, libraries can nurture their staff's ability to navigate challenges, foster collaboration, and drive change in their communities. Attendees were then asked to share with others a resource or website to enrich their knowledge

The **DILC 2024** conference provided perspectives and insights into the evolving role of libraries in the 21st century. As **library leaders**, we must continue to evolve, adapt, and **empower our teams** through professional development, strategic leadership, and a **commitment to community engagement**. The sessions at DILC 2024 reaffirmed the importance of **collaborative leadership**, forward-thinking strategies, and a deep sense of purpose in shaping the libraries of the future.

² <https://ineli-mena.net/>

³ <https://learn.webjunction.org/>

⁴ <https://www.ala.org/core>

⁵ <https://www.publiclibraryadvocacy.org/>

⁶ <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/carnegieleadership>

⁷ <https://www.ifla.org/units/cpdwl/>

New CPDWL Blog Posts: Celebrating Insights and Contributions

We are delighted to share several new blog posts published on the CPDWL website since our last newsletter. These posts showcase the hard work and expertise of our contributors, offering valuable insights into professional development and workplace learning. On behalf of the CPDWL Section, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the authors for their thoughtful and inspiring contributions. Here's a brief summary of the latest blog posts:

- 1. Career Development Webinar for Kenyan Librarians: Strategies for Success**
Written by Tatiana Usova from Qatar, this blog highlights an engaging career development webinar for Kenyan librarians. The post outlines key strategies for professional success and provides inspiration for library professionals seeking to advance their careers.
 - Read the post here: [Career Development Webinar for Kenyan Librarians: Strategies for Success](#).
- 2. Navigating the Open Access Landscape**
Please take a moment to enjoy this fascinating blog post by Carmen Lei from Macau SAR, China, on Macau's Open Access Week 2024. Carmen explores the evolving open access landscape and its significance for libraries and researchers. This blog celebrates the international movement toward accessible and equitable knowledge sharing.
 - Read the post here: [Macau Open Access Week: Navigating the Open Access Landscape](#).
- 3. Celebrating Lifelong Learning: Insights from HKU**
The CPDWL Chair, Helen Chan also had the opportunity to contribute a blog post reflecting on the celebratory conference on lifelong learning hosted by the University of Hong Kong (HKU). This event highlighted the global importance of lifelong learning and its alignment with CPDWL's mission.
 - Read the post here: [Insights from the Celebratory Conference at HKU](#).
- 4. Libraries for a Greener Future**
In this post, Helen reflected on the important role of libraries in promoting sustainability and supporting the global agenda for a greener future. This blog aligns with CPDWL's goal to inspire libraries to embrace innovative approaches to sustainability.
 - Read the post here: [Greener Future](#).



We thank our contributors—Helen Chan, Tatiana Usova, Svetlana Gorokhova, Carmen Lei, and the CPDWL team—for their time, effort, and dedication in crafting these insightful posts.

Your contributions enrich our community and inspire meaningful discussions within the library field.

We encourage everyone to take a moment to explore these blogs and share them widely within your networks. Stay tuned for more updates and inspiring stories from CPDWL!

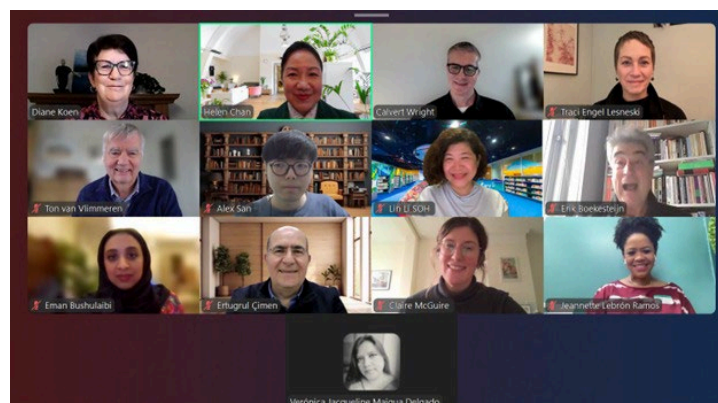
CPDWL Webinar Recap: “Libraries for a Greener Future”

The CPDWL webinar, [‘Libraries for a Greener Future: Innovative Responses to Climate Change’](#), held on January 17, 2025, was an outstanding success. This event highlighted how libraries are leading innovative efforts to combat climate change while promoting sustainability. With an impressive lineup of speakers and panelists from both the library and information sectors and the business field, the webinar delivered an engaging and insightful program.

Esteemed speakers included Claire McGuire, IFLA Manager of Policy and Advocacy; Traci Engel Lesneski, President and CEO of MSR Design; Ton van Vlimmeren, former director of the Utrecht Public Library in the Netherlands; Erik Boekesteijn, Senior Advisor at the National Library of the Netherlands; and Calvert Wright, architect, educator, and director of Calvert Wright Architecture PC | Spatial Discipline. Their presentations provided unique perspectives on libraries’ roles in environmental stewardship. A dynamic panel discussion, featuring the six IFLA Regional Division Committee Chairs and Representatives, further enriched the conversation by ensuring a global and inclusive dialogue.

The collaboration underscored libraries’ pivotal role in environmental education and sustainability, offering participants actionable strategies and inspiration. The webinar also introduced IFLA’s Library Map of the World on SDG Stories, showcasing libraries’ contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all speakers, panelists, and IFLA Regional Division Committees for their efforts in making this webinar impactful and accessible worldwide. Together, we continue to empower library professionals to drive meaningful change. Stay tuned for more CPDWL events leading up to WLIC 2025!



Workshop success for *Mentoring mysteries: Unlocking your potential as a future mentor or mentee*

By Anne Reddacliff and Gillian Hallam

Sheryl Sandberg wrote that asking someone to be your mentor is like a bird asking for its mother. The CPDWL workshop, *Mentoring mysteries: Unlocking your potential as a future mentor or mentee* proved this is not the case. A collaboration between IFLA CPDWL, Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA) Students and New Grads and IFLA New Professionals SIG, the workshop was held on Friday 4 October 2024 as a side event to the hugely successful IFLA Information Futures Summit 2024. Our group of potential mentees and mentors delved into the secrets of mentorship, both for the mentor and the mentee. It was a three hour event that showed how important being a mentor or a mentee can be in your library career.

Mentoring mysteries: Unlocking your potential as a future mentor or mentee took place at the Brisbane Square Library in the heart of Reddacliff Place. Attendees were treated to views over the beautiful Brisbane River as they commenced networking over coffee in the spacious **grand meeting room**. The workshop had 40 participants in total from a range of backgrounds including Library & Information Studies students, mid- career professionals and experienced library leaders.



Gillian Hallam, Jorun Systad and Anne Reddacliff from IFLA CPDWL have all been mentors or mentees throughout their careers

The event started with an Acknowledgement of Country to pay respects to the traditional owners of the land. This was kindly delivered by Rebecca Randle, Team Leader of Brisbane Square Library. The Chair of IFLA CPDWL, Helen Chan then provided a formal welcome to all the participants via video.

After the welcoming speeches we began the workshop component of the event with tables of five discussing the answers to questions like “What makes a good mentor?” and “What makes

a good mentee?” Tables were made up of a diversity of experience. Some participants were very new to mentoring while others were seasoned professionals. The discussion was vibrant and enlightening with participants reporting back on their conversations full of enthusiasm and wisdom to share.



A table of library leaders attending the *Mentoring mysteries* workshop

One interesting point that came out of the discussion was the idea that even though we might have the best intentions to become a good mentor or mentee sometimes “life gets in the way”. Mentors talked about how we need to be kind to ourselves and accept the times when we can’t live up to ours or someone else’s ideals. Good mentors and mentees know when it is time to take a break but this should not deter them from becoming a mentor or mentee in the future!

After the workshop we hosted a panel of four mentoring experts: Jacqui Lucas from ALIA, Jamie McCowan from CAVAL, Alan Brine, Chair of CILIP (who joined us online from the UK) and Tony Zanders from Skilltype. The panel set the scene for what successful mentoring can look like. They covered topics such as co-aligning expectations, setting goals and being realistic about what the partnership can bring. Tony Zanders from Skilltype who had flown all the way from the United States (!) to join us even talked about the uses of artificial intelligence (AI) in the mentoring experience, how it can enhance things like pairing of mentors and mentees. As AI was the main theme to emerge from the Information Futures Summit 2024 it was good to see that IFLA CPDWL were keeping pace with the trend!

The day closed with a lunch sponsored by Skilltype and CAVAL. It was an excellent opportunity for library professionals and students to interact across lunch. In evaluating the event it was collaborative, dynamic and appeared to equip our audience to become future mentors and mentees. We thank them for coming and wish them all the best!

CPDWL's Role in Advancing Learning and Professional Development

By Helen Chan
Chair, CPDWL Section

As Chair of IFLA's Section on Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning (CPDWL), I am proud to have contributed to the planning and conceptualization of the impactful training course, *"From Knowledge to Action: Skills for Impactful Training Design and Delivery."* This initiative, led by Stephen Wyber, IFLA HQ's Director of External Affairs, and supported by Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, underscores the power of collaboration and IFLA's commitment to fostering professional growth within the library and information field.

Funded by Stichting IFLA Global Libraries (SIGL), the course offers essential tools and guidance for creating effective online and blended learning materials. It draws upon the vast expertise of IFLA's volunteer and membership community, transforming knowledge into actionable resources for professional development. This initiative not only strengthens skills within the library field but also empowers the communities we serve by equipping them with new knowledge and abilities.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Stephen Wyber for the successful program and my gratitude to Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe for her dedication to producing high-impact training materials, as well as to SIGL for its financial support, which made this initiative possible. CPDWL remains committed to advancing lifelong learning and professional development, and we look forward to continuing these efforts to strengthen our global library community.

From knowledge to impact: course and learning tools available

10 December 2024

From Knowledge to Action: Skills for Impactful Training Design and Delivery

Introducing Your Trainer

Currently at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

- Professor & Coordinator for Research Professional Development, University Library
- Associate Faculty, School of Information Sciences, Center for Global Studies, European University
- Chair, and Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences

Previous IFLA's global libraries include:

- Coordinator for Information Literacy Services and Instruction (2002-2003)
- Coordinator for Self-Development and Training (2003-2005)

Professional Development Committee

- President, Association of College and Research Libraries, 2010-2011
- Member, Standing Committee on Professional Development (2008-2010)
- Chair, IFLA's Board of Directors, 2011-2013
- IFLA
- Information Literacy Section, Standing Committee, 2011-2013, Chair, 2011-2013
- Education and Training Section (2013-2015, Secretary, 2017-2023)
- Professional Council, 2023 present

Library School Courses Taught: International Information Organizations and Publishing

More news

A Goal for Culture: Culture2030Goal campaign launches process to develop new version

04 February 2025

Advancing knowledge management for inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth

04 February 2025

IFLA Sub-Saharan African Regional Division (IFLA SSA RDC), January 2025 Newsletter

<https://www.ifla.org/news/from-knowledge-to-impact-course-and-learning-tools-available/>

Basic Building Blocks of Librarianship: Small Steps to Bridge the Skills Gap of Library Workers

By Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya, PhD, CPD Researcher (Asia)/ Program Coordinator
Singapore



In 2023 I received American Library Association (ALA) International Relations Round Table (IRRT) Mission Enhancement Grant of US\$ 1000 for my proposal on '*Capacity Building for LIS Workers: Basic Building Blocks of Librarianship*'. The proposal recommended offering four webinars to LIS workers and was based on the findings of the research I have conducted on '[*Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) Opportunities Available to Library Workers in Selected Asia Countries*](#)'. The four topics identified for the proposed webinars covered the basic building blocks of Librarianship. Given library workers' high level of interest in the series as revealed in an informal poll, a fifth webinar on '*Basics of Research Methodology*' was added to the series.

Date/Time	Topic/ Name of Presenter
Thursday, 14 th March 3pm Singapore / 2:00am Central Time	Reference Services Ebru Gönül Türk , Academic Engagement & Reference Librarian, Suna Kirac Library, KOC Universitesi, Turkey
Thursday, 28 th March 3pm Singapore / 2:00am Central	Information Resource Organization Catherine Barnes , Course Coordinator & Lecturer, University of South Australia
Thursday 4 April 3pm Singapore/ 2:00am Central	Collection Development and Management Lachlan Young , Manager: Collection Management and Copyright Services, University of South Australia.
	Collection Building Using Open Educational Resources (OERs) Ash Barber , Academic Librarian (OERs), University of South Australia
Thursday, 11 April 3pm Singapore/ 2:00am Central Time	Information & Digital Literacies Jane Hammons, Assistant Professor, Teaching and Learning Engagement Librarian , The Ohio State University, USA
Thursday, 25 th April 3pm Singapore/ 2:00am Central Time	Basics of Research Methodology for Librarians Prof. Diljit Singh , Retired Professor, University of Malaya, Malaysia (Pro-bono)

The five-part webinar series conducted over March/April 2024 received overwhelming response. A total of **1,626 participants** attended the webinars representing **50-60 countries** at each, mainly from countries in Asia, Africa, Middle-East and Eastern Europe. A quick scan of the lists of participants revealed that the target market, i.e., junior to mid-level library workers as the highest cohort of attendees. Additionally, the webinars attracted many senior LIS professionals who also function as LIS trainers in their countries.

Audience feedback at the end of the sessions was very positive. A selection of the feedback is included below. During and following the conclusion of the webinar series, many requests were received from libraries, professional associations, and individuals for [links](#) to the recordings. Many of these requests were received from libraries in the USA, Australia & NZ, for example, the Wake Forest University Library, NC indicated that they plan to share the webinars with their new hires during the onboarding process.

The outcomes of the webinar series were shared at the following two events:

- **ALA IRRT Pre-conference: Diamond Moments of International Librarianship and its Impact, 28 June 2024**

Status of continuing professional development (CPD) activities in developing countries: A focus on the Maldives, Cambodia, and Myanmar

- **IFLA Information Summit 2024, 30 Sept - 1 Oct, Brisbane, Australia. Ignite talk: Future proofing the LIS workforce in Asia: small steps to bridge the skills gap**

The overwhelming response to the webinar series reinforced my research findings, viz a viz the significant gap in available CPD offerings, specifically in developing countries, and the need for more of such activities. The feedback from the participants on the series in general and the curation of the webinar topics was very positive. The informal feedback received from the IRRT stakeholders was that the ROI on the webinar series exceeded expectations.

The recruitment of resource persons from the USA and Canada was a challenge due to time zone conflicts and limited the talent pool that may have otherwise benefited the participants.

I would like to place on record my thanks to the ALA IRRT Mission Enhancement Grant Committee for recognizing the significance of my proposal and awarding this grant to facilitate my efforts to offer capacity building opportunities to LIS workers, specifically in the developing countries. The implementation of the project was a very fulfilling experience as well as a great opportunity to connect with many LIS professionals around the world. The project also helped showcase ALA IRRT's contribution to international librarianship.

Recordings available at: [ALA IRRT Capacity Building Webinar Series: Basic Building Blocks of Librarianship](#)



Feedback from the Participants & the Presenters on the Individual Presentations and the Webinar Series

Webinar 1: Reference Services [Ebru Gönül Türk](#)

"Thank you very much from New Zealand. a great presentation" XX City Libraries, New Zealand

"Thank you for your wonderful presentation, very informative and useful" Business School Library, Cambodia

"Thanks so much to all; this was most insightful 🧐 and educational. Appreciate it." Special Library, South Africa

Webinar 2: Information Resource Organization [Catherine Barnes](#)

"Thanks, Catherine for that concise and helpful overview. It is an excellent summary of what we teach during 14 weeks of class" Asst Prof., Maldives University

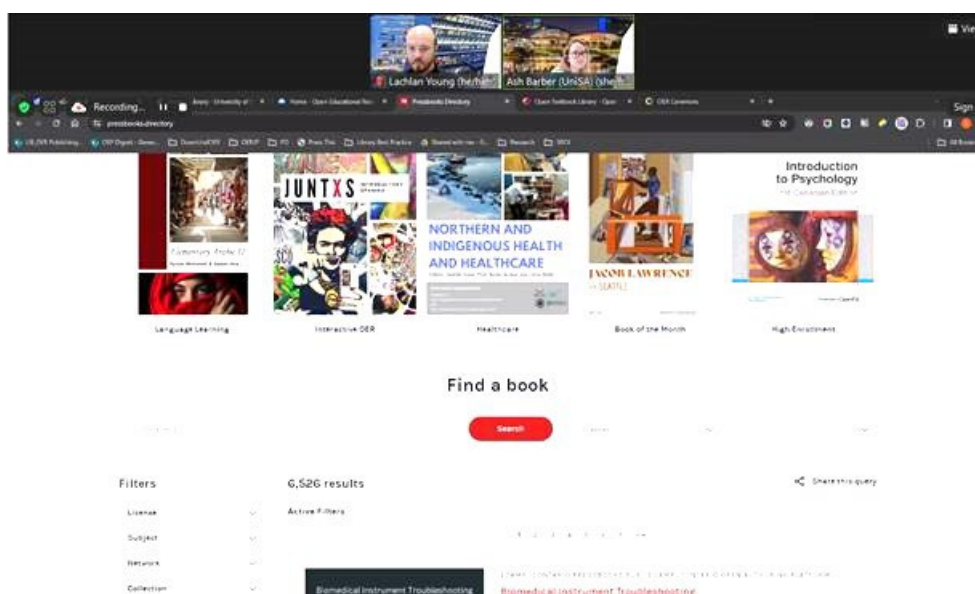
"Thank you for answering my questions about sensitive topics and not dodging the issue" Institute of Education, Cape Town South Africa

"Thank you so much for MARCEdit! I will use it with students in Thailand." University Library, Thailand

Webinar 3: Collection Building Using Open Educational Resources (OERs) [Ash Barber](#) & Collection Development and Management [Lachlan Young](#)

- *"Thank you both presenters for excellent and informative sessions. Highly appreciated. Thanks to IRRT as well, great idea to have these sessions." University Library, Abu Dhabi UAE*
- *"Greetings from Bhutan. Thank you very much for the useful information." Library, Bhutan*
- *"Both sessions were wonderful. Thanks, IRRT ❤️." University Library, Pakistan*
- *"Hello and warm greetings from Vanuatu. This is a very important topic for us here." Vanuatu Library*

- *"Webinar 3(b) was excellent. I was familiar with open access resources but had never heard of OERs before and was super excited to learn more about them."* **University Library, Kuantan, Malaysia**



Webinar 4: Information & Digital Literacies [Jane Hammons](#)

"These IL Lessons assessments are really very good examples. I am glad I chose to attend this." **University Library, Namibia**

"Webinar 4 is probably my favourite because I'm a new librarian, a fresh graduate and have been working for less than a year, and am currently handling the information literacy classes at the campus library.... Jane is such a good teacher and kept me engaged the whole time. I feel like I already "knew" a lot of what she was teaching us but the way she presented the information was very engaging and I learned a lot from her." **University Library, Kuantan, Malaysia**

"Thank you so much for organizing such webinars and today is particularly insightful as Jane offered an engaging learning experience with an array of resources which I am looking forward to try out with my students. Well done to all!" **Library, Brunei**

Webinar 5: Basics of Research Methodology for Librarians [Prof. Diljit Singh](#)

"Thank you very much for this presentation: ALA, Dr. Diljit Singh." **Turkey**

"Thank you for the beautiful and educative presentation. Kudos to the organizers." **University Library, Nigeria**

"Thank you Prof. Diljit. Excellent and informative, presentation and thanks to ALA for the support." **Nepalese Association of School Librarians**

"From Dr. Diljit's lecture we learnt what is research and that doing research is an essential part of library services. Myanmar Library Association he organizers and all here - very informative!!! **South Africa. School, Netherlands**

"... very fruitful and informative. I am now motivated ..." **Philippines Library Association**

"Your presentation has given me the strength to do research. Thanks again" **Myanmar Library Association**

*"Thank you Dr. Diljit Singh for delivering a simply wonderful and informative presentation. Its highly motivational ideas specially for junior researchers." **University Library, Sri Lanka***

Webinar Series

*"Thank you so much Gina, all the webinars were very useful. It was a wonderful opportunity for us, librarians from the Maldives to learn from international librarians." **University Library, Maldives***

*"Thank you for organising this series!" **University Library, Singapore***

*"... my favourite thing about the webinars is all the examples and references shared with us. Even as a librarian, I struggle to find information resources that are helpful in building my librarianship skills due to lack of time, motivation, skill, and, also due to information overload. I learn best with a teacher, so these free sessions are invaluable to me. Thank you so much for this webinar series." **University Library, Kuantan, Malaysia***

*"The 5-session Capacity Building Webinar Series was such a valuable experience for us Maldivians. Opportunities like this, especially free international webinars, are rare, so it felt like a real privilege to take part. The sessions were thoughtfully organized, with content that was both relevant and easy to relate to. What stood out the most was how the presenter brought the topics to life by sharing personal stories and practical examples—it really helped deepen my understanding. I especially enjoyed the final session on "Basics of Research Methodology for Librarians". It was incredibly insightful, and I took away so much from it. Thank You so much!" **Asst Lecturer, Maldives University***

*"It was an excellent opportunity for Maldives librarians and created a positive vibe in the Maldives librarian community for the series. Also, through that exposure, our recent graduates planned a couple of webinar sessions in a similar format. One session has been conducted and was received well." **Asst Prof., Maldives University***

*"Thanks for forwarding the link to the list of webinars! What a useful series this will be to share with new employees. Thanks, so much for doing it, and sharing the results. **University Library, Winston-Salem, N.C., USA***

Feedback from the presenters

*"Being part of an event organized by ALA has been a dream of mine since my student days, which made it an incredibly special experience... and rewarding. Seeing people from around the world participate and receiving positive feedback afterwards was amazing. This experience has meant a lot to me and I'm open to collaborating more in the future by participating in and supporting similar events." [Ebru Gönül Türk](#) **Reference Services***

*"The experience of presenting a webinar to colleagues from overseas was very grounding for me. I couldn't rely on local knowledge and cultural connections, so had to consider universal concepts and understanding in presenting content. I deliberately chose to include my pets to have a connection with the attendees, for this reason." [Catherine Barnes](#) **Information Resource Organization***

*"... I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to share knowledge about a topic I love with a keen audience from all over the world who were actively engaged and committed to their learning." [Ash Barber](#) **Collection Building Using Open Educational Resources (OERs)***

"It's rare as a librarian to have the chance to present to such a large audience, so I was gratified to see how much interest our session had attracted from around the world. The questions and discussion from the attendees showed how thoughtful and engaged they were, and I enjoyed the whole experience." [Lachlan Young](#) **Collection Development and Management**

I was thrilled with the opportunity to present The audience was curious, engaging, and insightful and I loved having the opportunity to interact with library professionals from so many different countries... and to hear their comments and questions." [Jane Hammons](#) **Information & Digital Literacies**

"A very rewarding experience! ... the number of participants (683) was very encouraging, and there have been a number of follow-up requests ... I look forward to future webinars." [Prof. Diljit Singh](#) **Basics of Research Methodology for Librarians**

For more information, please email: ginadealwis@gmail.com



The screenshot shows the ALA (American Library Association) website. At the top left is the ALA logo. At the top right is a search icon and a menu icon. Below the header, the text "ALA" is visible. The main heading is "Capacity Building Webinar Series: Basic Building Blocks Librarianship". Below this, the text "Capacity Building Webinar Series: Basic Building Blocks Librarianship" is repeated. A link to all recordings is provided: <https://www.ala.org/capacity-building-webinar-series-basic-building-blocks-librarianship>. A description follows: "Description: The ALA IRRT Webinar Committee in association with the American Library Association (ALA) International Relations Round Table (IRRT) Mission Enhancement Project present a series of FIVE (5) webinars to support capacity building of library employees (non-professionals)."

Enhancing Open Science Adoption in the MENA Region: A Groundbreaking Initiative Supported by the DataCite Global Access Fund

By: Dr. Heba Mohamed Ismail

The Arab Federation for Libraries and Information (AFLI), in collaboration with the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN), is leading an impactful project aimed at enhancing the adoption of Open Science practices in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. This initiative, which is supported by the DataCite Global Access Fund (GAF), promises to be a transformative step in ensuring that research from the region is more discoverable, accessible, and collaborative.

The project, **“Enhancing Open Science Adoption in the MENA Region,”** focuses on empowering research administrators and academic librarians who oversee digital repositories. Through targeted training on the use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs), metadata standards, and the foundational principles of Open Science, the project aims to significantly enhance the visibility and accessibility of research outputs from the MENA region.

At the heart of this initiative is the development of a comprehensive online training program hosted on AFLI’s Moodle platform. The course will cover key areas such as:

1. Foundations of Open Science;
2. Institutional Support and Policy Development;
3. Enhancing Accessibility and Ethical Standards;
4. Technical Implementation and Impact Measurement.

This initiative is not just about training—it is about creating a sustainable ecosystem for Open Science in the MENA region. Through the project, AFLI and ASREN are building a community of practice that will facilitate ongoing collaboration, knowledge sharing, and peer support among local institutions. By fostering a culture innovation, the project seeks to connect MENA researchers with the global research community, contributing to the broader movement toward open, equitable access to research data.

The project’s community-building efforts will be supported by interactive webinars, workshops. These outreach activities will raise awareness about the importance of Open Science and highlight the impact of local initiatives.

AFLI & ASREN are proud to be part of the second cohort of GAF-funded projects, which garnered a highly competitive pool of applications from around the world. The fund, supported by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, helps organizations like AFLI make their research outputs more discoverable and integrated into the global open infrastructure. The MENA-based project is among the eight awardees for 2024, joining other organizations from Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Pakistan, Tunisia, and Vietnam in driving meaningful change within their regions.

For the MENA region, this funding is crucial in addressing existing challenges and leveraging regional networks to strengthen the adoption of Open Science practices. It is an exciting time

as these efforts will not only improve the visibility of research outputs but also cultivate a culture of collaboration that extends beyond borders.

To ensure the project's success, we have established a robust evaluation framework that will measure its impact in several key areas: Knowledge Improvement; Adoption and Implementation; Participant Engagement; Community Growth and Sustainability. These measures will help assess the project's effectiveness in fostering the adoption of open science practices, building regional collaboration, and creating a lasting, sustainable open science ecosystem in the MENA region.

The "Enhancing Open Science Adoption in the MENA Region" project is just the beginning. AFLI and ASREN are committed to ensuring the sustainability of this initiative long after the project's official timeline. A post-training evaluation, along with the development of a sustainability strategy, will ensure that the knowledge, skills, and practices shared throughout the project continue to thrive, creating a lasting impact on the region's research landscape.

Through the support of the DataCite Global Access Fund, this project is not only helping to shape the future of Open Science in MENA but also contributing to the global Open Science movement. Together, we are advancing a more connected, transparent, and accessible research ecosystem, ensuring that research in the MENA region is positioned for greater impact on the world stage.

Stay tuned for updates on this exciting journey as we continue to empower and inspire the next generation of Open Science advocates in the MENA region!

Collaborate on Revising Multicultural Communities Guidelines

The Library Services to Multicultural Populations (MCULTP) Section invites CPDWL and other IFLA sections to collaborate on revising the *Multicultural Communities: Guidelines for Library Services*. Last updated in 2009, this revision will focus on updating content and adding new examples of international best practices. The goal is to ensure the Guidelines remain relevant to the evolving needs of multicultural communities worldwide.

We are pleased to announce that Helen Chan (CPDWL Chair) and Camilla Antonia Livia Notarbartolo (CPDWL Standing Committee member) are part of the revision team, contributing professional development perspectives to this important initiative.

This is a meaningful opportunity for CPDWL members and colleagues to help shape inclusive library services for diverse communities, and we are grateful to take part.

Embracing Diversity Enriching Communities



Uniting Knowledge. Building the Future
World Library and Information Congress
89th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
18-22 August 2025, Astana, Kazakhstan

CPDWL Members

Responsibilities

Officers

Man Yi Helen Chan
Chair
CHINA
Lecturer (P/T)
The University of Hong Kong
Email: helenc98_1998@yahoo.com

Jorun Systad
Secretary
NORWAY
Library Director
Sunnfjord municipality
Email: jorun.systad@sunnfjord.kommune.no

Joan Weeks
Information Coordinator
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Near East Section Head and Turkic Specialist. African and Middle Eastern Division
Library of Congress
Email: joanweeks@gmail.com

Standing Committee Members

Alan Brine
UNITED KINGDOM
Deputy Director, Library and Student Services
De Montfort University
Email: abrine@dmu.ac.uk

Elena Corradini
ITALY
Librarian/Cataloger Central University Library
University of Trento
Email: ecorradini67@gmail.com

Ivana Todorovic
SERBIA
Senior Librarian
Narodna Biblioteka Srbije / National Library of Serbia
Email: ivana.todorovic@nb.rs

Anne Reddacliff
AUSTRALIA
Librarian
State Library of Queensland
Email: Anne.Reddacliff@slq.qld.gov.au

Florian Forestier
FRANCE
Curator in charge of social innovation and diversity policies
Bibliothèque Nationale de France
Email: florian.forestier@bnf.fr

Jarkko Rikkilä
FINLAND
Library Manager
Lempäälä Municipality
Email: Jarkko.rikkila@lempaala.fi

Camilla Antonia Livia Notarbartolo
ITALY
Training Officer
Milan City Libraries
(Sistema Bibliotecario di Milano)
Email: camilla.notarbartolo@comune.milano.it

Heba Ismail
EGYPT
Libraries Technical Manager
Egypt's Society for Culture & Development
Email: bobohh13@gmail.com

Julia M. Gelfand
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Applied Sciences and Engineering Librarian
University of California, Irvine
Email: jgelfand@uci.edu

Carmen Ka Man Lei
CHINA
Librarian
Macao Institute for Tourism Studies
Email: leicarmen@gmail.com

Hend Elshennawy
EGYPT
Head of Quality and Administrative Services Department
Bibliotheca Alexandrina
Email: hend.shennawy@bibalex.org

Mantra Roy
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Collection Strategy Librarian
San Jose State University
Email: mantra.roy@sjsu.edu

Mingyan Li
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Metadata Librarian
University of Illinois,
Chicago Email:
mli5@uic.edu

Mitsuhiro Oda
JAPAN
Professor of Library and Information
Studies
College of Community
Studies, Aoyama Gakuin
University
Email: m-oda@ccs.aoyama.ac.jp

Simona Bursasiu
ROMANIA
Librarian
Library of the Politehnica University
Timisoara. Email: simona_bursasiu@yahoo.de

Susan Cherono
KENYA
Librarian
United States International University,
Africa. Email: scherono@usiu.ac.ke

Tao Yang
CHINA
Associate Librarian, Learning and
Research Services
University of Hong Kong
Email: yangta@hku.hk

Tina Haglund
SWEDEN
Department manager Digital Library/
media
Helsingborg City Libraries
Email:
tinahaglund3@gmail.com

Svetlana Gorkhova
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Academic Secretary
V. Mayakovsky City Central Public
Library .
Email: svetagorokhova@gmail.com

Co-opted Members

Hend Elshennawy
EGYPT
Head of Quality and Administrative
Services Department
Bibliotheca Alexandrina
Email: hend.shennawy@bibalex.org

Tatiana Usova
QATAR
Director of the Library Carnegie Mellon
University in Qatar
Email: tusova@andrew.cmu.edu

Camilla Anotnia Livia Notarbartolo ITALY
Training Officer
Milan City Libraries (Sistema Bibliotecario
di Milano) Email:
camilla.notarbartolo@comune.milano.it

IFLA CPDWL

The CPDWL Section embraces all aspects of professional development and learning in the workplace in the period post-qualification to the end of a career.

New developments and trends in information and communication technology, higher expectations of users, requirements of employers and managers of libraries and information service organisations and competition from information professionals in the broader information industry emphasize the imperative for associations and institutions to be 'learning organisations' and develop their staff by providing opportunities for continuing professional development and training in the workplace; and for individuals to be responsible for their own career planning and development.

Our membership engages institutions, organisations and individuals in a community of practice which supports practical and research-related activities within our area of subject expertise. The Section also brings together those who are interested in and responsible for the quality improvement of systems for delivering continuing professional development and workplace learning programs.

Join us!

