ASIAN CHAPTER NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Asian Chapter of the Special Libraries Association

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A Message from the President
Jane Macoustra

Welcome to our new format newsletter. I'd like to extend Season's Greetings to you all. 2004 has been a busy year for the SLA Asian Chapter Board and we have all been working hard to move the Chapter forwards. Our region has members in 22 countries and we are working towards expanding our membership in 2005. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your colleagues and other professional contacts.

In 2004, I attended the Internet Librarian Conference and Online Information, both of which were held in London. At Online, I met with our President-Elect, Mr Sathyanarayana, and we held a meeting to discuss the Board's plans for 2005. Mr Sathya and I also met with the President of the European SLA, Liz Blankson-Hemans, and Janice LaChance, who is an Executive Director of the US SLA. For me, it was a great opportunity to go and meet old friends and contacts, whom I had not seen for years, since my return from Asia.

The time of year has come for you to nominate yourself or someone else onto the Asian Chapter Board. The Chapter is calling for nominations NOW. Use your right to vote and support your Chapter.

We are currently seeking an Archivist to assist the Chapter with its documentation. If anyone is interested in this, or any other position, please use the forms at the back of the newsletter.

We are actively seeking members to write for the newsletter. You can write about anything related to information professionals, about a technical issue, or you can describe your day. It would be interesting for other members to read about the work of information professionals in other countries. We are such a diverse region that our members will be able to learn and progress from your expertise. This is especially important for the next generation who have just entered this worthy profession. If you would like to write for the newsletter, please contact the Editor, Dr.T.K.Guha, caseditors@gmail.com

We are also actively looking for sponsorship for the Chapter, the newsletter and for other Chapter activities. If anyone is interested in sponsoring the Chapter or engaging in other roles, please contact any of the Chapter Officers.

Finally I would like to end by respectfully sending a message of condolence to anyone who has been affected by the Tsunami on the 26th December and the more recent earthquake in the Sumatra region.

All members of the Asian Chapter are requested to update their e-mail and postal addresses.

Letter from SLA HQ

SLA Seeks Volunteers for Future Natural Disaster Relief Efforts

To assist the people of South and Southeast Asia affected by the tsunami and to prepare for future natural disasters, SLA President Ethel Salonen has established a Taskforce on Natural Disasters with the following mandate:

"To investigate and establish ways in which the global community of information professionals can contribute their expertise in information organization and access to the recovery efforts following the tsunami in south Asia. The focus will be on voluntary contributions of time and resources rather than direct financial donations. Vital to this effort will be alliances between SLA and other library and information organizations to make the best use of the knowledge and skills of the informal, international network of information professionals. The resulting methodology will be used as a model for providing assistance in future instances of natural disasters."

For example, the Taskforce is establishing a recovery information response center that will be composed of an international network of volunteers who will respond to questions from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other aid groups. These volunteers will do online searches and provide reference assistance in areas such as clinical medicine, environmental clean-up, ecological restoration, business development, disaster recovery, and library restoration. The focal point will be SLA, but the network will be an alliance of volunteers from major library associations around the world. The alliance is tentatively called the Information Professionals' Alliance on Natural Disasters and Accidents (IPANDA).

Here's how you can help:

1. Volunteer to be a responder in the recovery information response network. There will be no reimbursement for expenses, so your time and your organization's resources will have to be donated. Be sure to get your organization's permission to use its commercial databases.

2. If you work for an organization that has significant publications, collections or human resources that relate to disasters or disaster recovery, send a brief description and contact information to the Taskforce to become part of a resource directory.

3. Tell the Taskforce about NGOs or other organizations you know of that might have an immediate need to use the recovery information response network so the Taskforce can send them descriptive information.

4. Send other suggestions to the Taskforce about how SLA and other library organizations might be able to assist the people, libraries, and recovery organizations in south Asia. (We need ideas beyond the direct financial contributions SLA is already urging its members to make.)

As part of the effort to develop IPANDA, Dav Robertson, Chair of the SLA Task Force on Natural Disaster Relief recently e-mailed all Asian Chapter members with a brief description of the proposed network and also asked for input in response to the following questions.

1. What kinds of information needs do you have now, resulting from the tsunami?
2. Do you think the recovery information response center described in the example above would be of help to you?
3. How would you want to communicate with the information response center? By e-mail, telephone, fax, Web form, or otherwise?
4. Do you have suggestions for other ways SLA might assist the people in the affected countries?

If you can answer Dav's questions or if you wish to participate in IPANDA, please respond to the Taskforce at IPANDA@sla.org. Since the Tsunami hit our region so hard, it would be wonderful if Asian Chapter members could be actively involved in SLA's proposed effort. More information will be forthcoming, especially for those who volunteer to be information responders. The Taskforce is targeting mid March 2005 to begin the response network.

FamPat : A Family Based International Patent Database

Questel Orbit, the parent organization of Plus Pat, recently launched FamPat, a family based version of its international patent database, PlusPat. In FamPat, a single family record combines together all publication stages of the family. Searches for Assignee, Inventor or Classes are conducted on all family equivalents. Boolean searching is available across all family abstracts.

FamPat has the broadest country and time coverage of any subject-searchable patent database. It covers 75 patenting authorities and more than 36 millon records with weekly updating. The coverage starting dates vary from country to country. 1920's and earlier for US, Germany, France, and Great Britain

publications. The very early records have only numeric information. However, this includes ECLA classes in some cases, so they can be retrieved in subject searches.

Questel•Orbit has developed a family definition which incorporates the EPO's strict family rule with additional rules to include: Applications falling outside the 12 month filing limit; Links between EP and PCT publications; Combining US Provisionals that share the same priority with US Published Applications. FamPat's family definitions also incorporate different patenting authorities' definitions of an invention, particularly useful with Japanese publication searching

FamPat's advantage over PlusPat is that searchers can look for all these elements across all members of a patent family. For instance, a Boolean terminology search could pick up one term from one country's abstract and another term from a different abstract. (And, the abstracts can vary from country to country, depending on different countries' requirements.) Searchers can look for IPCs from all family members, as well as ECLA and U.S. classes, combined with terminology from all family members' text. Patent assignees and inventors, which can vary from country to country, are also searchable across all members of a patent family.

The search options in FamPat are:

- **Basic Index:** the basic index incorporates the Title, Original title (for non English language title), Abstract and index term. The basic index can be searched by single term using Boolean or proximity operator phases using implied adjacency.

- **Publication data:** search all the patent publication stages using the patent/publication number and the date of publication of all family members

- **Citation searching:** FamPat also provides extensive patent citation information. Forward and backward citation searching is available for U.S., European, PCT, British, and French family members. Search patent citation using standardized patent number or two letter code and bibliographic citation using keywords or standardized patent number

- **Extended Family Searching:** the main feature of FamPat is its handling of patent families. FamPat starts its patent family with the EPO/espacenet strict family—a group of patent documents that all have exactly the same priority or priorities. FamPat has expanded this to include additional

family members as defined by some patenting authorities' varying rules. FAM command is used for searching broader families.

- **Statistical searching:** Statistical searching is possible on FamPat, with some advantages. FamPat de-duplicates the assignees in a family record, so the searcher gets only one form of the assignee name in a statistical analysis. All fielded numeric data within a family are available for analysis; therefore, an analysis of patenting or priority dates will include that data from all family members.

Another achievement for FamPat is the SDI (Current Awareness) profile which uses the SDI command after the search strategy has been created in the database. The created SDI profile will be automatically run against each update to the database or you may choose to receive the result on a monthly basis and the result will be sent either by postal mail or email.

Mr.Rahul R.Hiremath
Librarian, Terna Engineering College, Maharastra,
India

Getting the most out of your SLA membership
OPEN UP A WORLD OF INFORMATION BY VISITING WWW.SLA.ORG
SLA offers a vast array of invaluable services for its members from networking to employment opportunities. One of the easiest ways to gain access to SLA services, especially for members in Asia, is through SLA's website, which can be found at www.sla.org. Even long time SLA members might not realize the extent of resources that are available.

Below are just a few reasons that you might benefit from visiting the website.

Do you want to attend a conference or participate in continuing education in the information field? SLA organizes many of the most respected conferences in the information field. Click on the EVENTS AND CONFERENCES tab to find out about the upcoming SLA Annual Conference in Toronto. There are also presentations and tapes from previous annual conferences. In addition, there are detailed events calendars, which identify key information industry events globally, along with seminars and conferences and continuing education opportunities that SLA and its chapters will be offering throughout the year. Many of these continuing education programs are available electronically and readily accessible to members of the Asian chapter.

Did you know that SLA offers a number of grants and scholarships to help members afford conferences and

also fund research? If you click on the PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT tab, you can find information about a number of scholarships and grants for students and professionals, including some that can help to cover the travel costs associated with attending conferences and some to fund research on topics of concern to SLA members.

Do you want a new job, a better salary, or career ideas? SLA can help you to improve your career prospects. You can see how by clicking on the CAREERS tab. There are salary surveys along with a regularly updated list of career opportunities that you can apply for. You can also post your resume and make it available to the global membership. If you need career advice, no matter where you live, you can find an advisor or a mentor, or if you want to help guide someone else, there's an opportunity to become a mentor. There are also many articles on career development. Even if you're not thinking about changing jobs, you might want to check out the job postings to see what types of careers are hot and what qualifications are in most demand. The job postings might also provide some ideas on what to include in an advertisement for your own organization's recruitment efforts.

Do you ever start to panic when you receive a question about the information industry or a reference request that you simply don't know how to answer? No matter where you reside in the world, SLA can help put you on the path to finding answers to your questions quickly by simply clicking on the SLA COMMUNITY tab. The website provides the tools to help members contact other SLA members and access their in-depth knowledge about all aspects of the field. You can contact fellow members in over 20 specialized SLA divisions and 58 regional chapters. You can also sign up to participate in over 100 different discussion groups. Or, you can turn to the very easy to use online membership directory and e-mail any of SLA's 13,000 members around the world. There's even a directory of suppliers and manufacturers which includes vendors of many types of information related products.

Have you ever wished that there was one place that you could turn to in order to monitor developments in the information industry? The SLA website includes carefully selected topics of most relevance to information professionals under the RESOURCES tab. There are continuously updated articles on topics such as blogging, competitive intelligence, copyright, knowledge management, outsourcing, search tools, security and information, vendors and products, and web topics under the news

connections link. Under the information portals link you can find bibliographies and selective links to full text articles on over 40 different topics, such as careers, intellectual property, international issues, internet/intranets, competitive intelligence, knowledge management, management services, marketing your library, and library related technology. Current and back issues of SLA's highly respected monthly publication, *Information Outlook*, which includes tips on careers and practical articles on all aspects of helping one to manage information resources more effectively are also available on the website. In addition, you can find summaries of recently published reports on the information industry and instructions on how members can order them at discounted prices. There is also a disaster planning bibliography with links to selected full text articles.

Do you want to join SLA, renew your membership or encourage someone else to join? All of the information that you need to join SLA or to keep your membership up to date is available under the MEMBERSHIP tab

The above just provides a tiny glimpse of the resources that are available on the website. In case you have not visited recently, we encourage you to log on, using your membership id, and discover the wealth of information that is available.

Mr. Scott Davidson
Director, SLA Asian Chapter

Marcus P. Zillman's resources for corporate, industry and academic research

I always look for new sources for undertaking research, and the Internet can be a goldmine for finding good information. A while ago, I stumbled across a newsletter by Marcus Zillman and have been using the resources that he provides in a corporate, industry and academic context. I would like to share with you some information about these free services.

Marcus Zillman is an expert authority when it comes to information access and the Internet, and he has just been profiled in an article in Library Hi Tech News which is authored by Gerry McKiernan of the Iowa State University Library.

The first resource to share is his newsletter, Awareness Watch. Marcus writes "It gives me great pleasure to announce my January 2005 V3N1 Awareness Watch™ Newsletter. The Awareness Watch Featured Report this month highlights a comprehensive listing of online Grant Resources.

The Awareness Watch Spotters cover many excellent and newly released annotated current awareness research sources and tools as well as the latest identified Internet happenings and resources. The paper review covers Information Retrieval and the Semantic Web by Tim Finin, James Mayfield, Clay Fink, Anupam Joshi, and R. Scott Cost; and the Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs have been updated with the latest subject: Social Informatics."

I have used many of his links, including-
- ❑ The white paper Using the Internet As a Dynamic Resource Tool for Knowledge Discovery
- ❑ Searching the Internet White Paper
- ❑ The main page for the white papers is located at http://www.WhitePapers.us/

There are papers and articles related to searching the invisible web.
- ❑ http://www.llrx.com/features/deepweb.htm
- ❑ http://www.planetearthradio.com/technology.htm
- ❑ http://www.deepwebresearch.info

For those who are not aware of the invisible web yet, this is another Internet tool where you can locate "hidden" information. This information cannot be found using search engines because the spiders cannot crawl the data. This is because either the spiders cannot read the format, or the data lies behind an interface requiring human interaction, or even because the creator of the data has added coding to stop the data being spidered by the search engines. Also, see the Information Detective, which is crammed with good information. The Information Detective contains a set of streaming video presentations, which can be freely used for learning about the Internet and tools for undertaking research. The videos can be viewed using dial-up, broadband or pro broadband, making them accessible to a broad range of users.

"The January 2004 Awareness Watch Featured Report covers selected single subject directories, gateways and portals available currently on the Internet. The Awareness Watch Spotters report on some excellent just released papers as well as new identified Internet sources."

There are sources that show you how to research industries, and how to use competitive intelligence tools for that research.

From an Academic point of view, I have provided many training documents to students in higher education, including showing them the Virtual Private Library , which has an incredible list of resources by subject and also includes a specific link for students.

I dropped Marcus an e-mail prior to completing my article and he sent me this article which has been downloaded over 2000 times in a two-week time frame. It is located at Academic and Scholar Search Engines and Sources.

This is an internet mini guide compilation providing links to many academic and scholarly resources. Each resource is annotated to make selection easier for the user.

The last resource that may be of interest is Marcus' personal blog, where there are 4000 postings since the year 2000, and he currently posts 6+ items daily on information retrieval, information search and knowledge harvesting etc. along with numerous links to other freely available resources. It also has RSS feed like all his other sites.

The members of the SLA Asian Chapter diversify across industry, academia and the corporate sector and everyone will be able to find something of use on this web site. In a region where funding for our libraries and information centres may be in short supply in comparison with some Western countries, this resource is invaluable and should be shared.

I have only just touched the surface of the riches you can locate on Marcus Zillman's web pages, so go and check out this site. You will be pleasantly surprised by the amount of free, reliable information that is available. One of the best things about finding sites like this is that you know that the information is authoritative, high quality information.

Jane Macoustra
President, SLA Asian Chapter

🟣 Useful Resources

Montague Institute Review: This is a monthly Web journal consisting of articles on information management topics, books and software reviews and summaries from Internet discussion groups. Anyone can sign-up for a subscription to the Montague Institute Review and there are some free seminars available that are web based and therefore not tied to a time zone. For details please visit: http://www.montague.com

New Members of the Special Libraries Association in 2004.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members of the Special Libraries Association.

The following people joined the SLA Asian Chapter in 2004:

Kyoko Sato – Japan
Tamal Kumar Guha – India

The following people joined the SLA in 2004 but are not affiliated to a Chapter or a Division. We would like to invite all the following new members to affiliate with us and support the SLA Asian Chapter.

Azahar Mohd Noor - Malaysia
Chao Cheng – China PRC
Dae Shin Kang – South Korea
Dai Yanoh – Japan
Erta D Kuari - Indonesia
Fumiko Toyoda - Japan
Hauw Soo-Kiaw – Singapore
Idris Surattee - Singapore
Jane Edinger – Australia
John F Mortensen – Australia
Junghee Kim – South Korea
KA Raju – India
Karl Ku –Taiwan
Keikko Ishii – Japan
Kyoko Sato – Japan
Lianne Forster Knight - Australia
Mi Sun Kim – South Korea
Mr Mark Goetz – Japan
Mr Paul G Bentley – Australia
Mr Takashi Yamakawa - Japan
Mr William Woods – Hong Kong
Ms Ann KL Lim - Singapore
Ms Christabel Chung – Hong Kong
Ms Evelyn Domingo Barker – Thailand
Ms Judith A Lipp - Australia
Ms Vijaya K Sundaram – India
Ms Wendy Flannery - Australia
Muhammed Yaqub Chaudhary - Pakistan
Pao-Nuan Hsieh - Taiwan ROC
R Sivadas - India
Rachel M Curran – New Zealand
Radha Govindarajan – India
Shiho Yoshitomi - Japan
Shirianjani M De Alwis – Singapore

Register now for SLA's Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada!

SLA's most important event of the year is just around the corner. From June 5-8, thousands of information professionals from around the world will converge on Toronto, Canada, for the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. The SLA Conference offers over 100 intensive sessions during the three days, presented by luminaries in the information field, on topics ranging from conducting research in business and technology to marketing and information center management.

If you're coming from Asia, it might be worthwhile to arrive a couple of days early to take advantage of the pre-conference events, which consist of half and full day seminars on diverse topics such as:

- Chemistry for the Non-Chemist Librarian
- Taxonomies for Indexing—a Hands on Approach
- Private Equity Research
- Creating a Digital Library
- Finding Financial Services Information-on Target & on Budget
- Blogging for News
- Making a Business Case for the Information Center
- Negotiating Digital Licensing Agreements
- and many more

The conference also includes one of the world's largest exhibits by vendors of information products and services, along with ample opportunities throughout the conference to network with other information professionals. The conference wraps up with field trips and tours to a number of information organizations and other sites of interest in the Toronto area

For more information on the conference including the complete program, registration costs, hotel reservations, and travel arrangements go to the SLA website at www.sla.org or look in the supplement to the February issue of Information Outlook.

Conferences, Symposium etc.

ICADL2005:12-15 Dec. 2005, Bangkok, Thailand For details visit: http://www.icadl2005.ait.ac.th

ETD2005 : 28th - 30th Sep. 2005 For details visit: http://adt.caul.edu.au/etd2005/

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Support the SLA!

Calling All Members of the
Asian Chapter – We Need Your Support!

Would you like to have an active role in the Special Libraries Association Asian Chapter?

We are looking for support on the Board for 2005-2006 in a number of roles.

If you would like to support your Chapter, Please complete the form and send it to: Jackie Knuckle   knucklej@chh.org

Before: 31st may 2005.

Elections take place before June 2005. The following positions are available for election:

Board Roles:
President
President-Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
Director x 2

There are also a number of non-Board roles that we require assistance for. These roles require a majority vote of the current Board, and not the members, and will be agreed by a 50% or more majority electronic vote.

Non-Board Roles:
Archivist
Publicity Chair
Web Master
Country Representatives
Member Recruitment Chair
Vendor Relations Chair
Other – if you have special skills you could offer the Chapter we'd like to hear from you.

Application for a Board Position

or Non-Board role on the Special Libraries Association Asian Chapter

Please complete this form and send to: Jackie Knuckle at knucklej@chh.org

Date:

Name:

Membership Number:

I would like to be put forward for a place on the Board at the next election in the following role(s)

☐ President

☐ President-Elect

☐ Treasurer

☐ Secretary

☐ Director
☐ Director

I would like to be considered for a Non-Board role:

☐ Archivist

☐ Publicity Chair

☐ Web Master

☐ Country Representative

☐ Member Recruitment Chair

☐ Vendor Relations Chair

☐ Other

Please write a short paragraph about yourself. If there is more than one person applying for a role, we can include the information about you to enable the voters to make an informed choice about their preference of whom they vote on to the Board. Due to the size of the current Chapter, this communication will go out electronically, in the newsletter.