

News Release: American Library Association

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American Library Association
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From: Peggy Barber, Director
Public Information Office

For release: July 19, 1976

Centennial Conference
American Library Association
Chicago
July 18 - 24, 1976

Herman Liebaers was presented the highest award of the American Library Association, Honorary Membership, on July 19, during the Centennial Conference of the American Library Association in Chicago.

Mr. Liebaers was the Royal Librarian of Belgium from 1956 to 1973 and the president of the International Federation of Library Associations from 1969 to 1974. He was a Fellow and Associate Secretary of the Belgium American Education Foundation and a consultant to the Council on Library Resources.

The citation presented to Mr. Liebaers reads as follows:

As the Royal Librarian of Belgium from 1956 to 1973 you were central in making the national library a powerful instrument of modern scholarship cultural growth, and bibliographical service: a distinguished exemplar among the great learned libraries of the world. You created in your library a forceful center for scientific and technological documentation, and enriched the Royal Library's holdings and exhibits of rare books and manuscripts.

Throughout your career, you have been a perceptive missionary for better understanding between our two countries, first as a Fellow and Associate Secretary of the Belgium American Education Foundation and as a consultant to the Council on Library Resources.

Your contributions to international librarianship have been most creative. During your tenure as IFLA president from 1969 to 1974 the organization's membership, influence, and scope of function increased remarkably. Through your imaginative leadership IFLA has now become an instrument to promote worldwide library service.

Your foresight was demonstrated in a sense of the right timing and forces at play which gave birth to the IFLA program for Universal Bibliographic

add 1. Honorary Membership Herman Liebaers

Control. Your eloquent expression of the power of the book assured worldwide success for the UNESCO International Book Year Program.

For your powerful and forthright contribution in the highest councils of professional librarianship throughout the world the ALA hereby grants to you its highest award.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

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