

The East West University Library: Sharing My Personal Experiences

By *Shaharima Parvin*

I am a library officer from Bangladesh. I want to build a professional network and learn about librarianship around the world, but I do not have a budget to do that. Before engaging with the International Librarians Network (ILN) <http://interlibnet.org/>, I thought that financial restrictions are an insurmountable barrier for reaching your goals. But when I learned about the International Librarians Network (ILN) in March 2014, my thoughts changed. My journey has now started to fulfill my goals.

EWU Library, Bangladesh



One of my professional goals is to promote the significance of the library. I feel honored to be a part of the East West University Library team. We do not have money but we have ideas. There is no limit to making ideas happen if you are determined. Working with the East West University Library, I have gotten acquainted with the following types of open source and web based software:

- **Koha** for Library Management System
- **Dspace and Greenstone** for the Digital Library/Institutional

- Repository
- **Vufind** for discovery tools/ Federated Searching
- **Drupal** for Website and content management system
- **Mendeley/Refworks** for Reference and Citation Management
- **Zoho** for Virtual Reference Services
- **My Athens** for accessing e-resources from off-campus
- **Social Media (Facebook, YouTube, Google+, Twitter, Pinterest)** for

The East West University Library is one of the pioneer university librar-

ies in Bangladesh in terms of using the latest technology.

The EWU Library is trying to provide better services for its patrons as well as reaching patrons more effectively by organizing library activities for them. The EWU Library conducts Information Literacy program all year round. The library arranges this program on Tuesdays and Thursdays every week from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Old and new students can register themselves directly online using the library website. <http://lib.ewubd.edu/registerlibl>.

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Message from the Editors

Happy Reading!

Hello again! As Gail and I start our second year as co-editors of *International Leads*, we are happy to present this issue to you.

Beth Cramer, the new IRRT Chair, and Loida Garcia-Gebo, the new IRRT Chair-Elect, begin this issue with words of welcome to all of you, along with information on the work of the IRRT and how you can become more involved in it. News on the successful IRRT endowment fund also appears in this issue., as does a note of thanks from Nancy Bolt for her recent award.

Articles in this issue describe the East West University Library in Bangladesh, programming at the University of Windsor in Canada, grants received by Colorado libraries, and Cape Town Book Donation project outcomes.



Karen Bordonaro



Gail Sacco

International Leads Web Site

<http://www.ala.org/irrt/intlleads/internationalleads>

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Call for Submissions

Do you have news about...

International library activities?

People in international librarianship?

Upcoming international conferences?

Then why not submit to *International Leads*? Send your news and stories to the co-editors: Karen Bordonaro at kbordonaro@brocku.ca, or Gail Sacco at gsacco75@gmail.com.

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Message from the IRRT Chair



Beth Cramer
IRRT Chair (2016-2017)

It is with deepest gratitude and excitement that I begin my term as IRRT Chair. First, I would like to thank and congratulate John Hickok on his productive, informative, and fun term as IRRT Chair, 2015-2016. And many thanks to Robin Kear (Past-Chair, 2016-2017) for her fabulous IRRT service over the past years. They taught me a lot about leadership and how to steer IRRT throughout the year to accomplish its many goals and objectives.

In the following year, IRRT will be working to create international programming and speaking opportunities at the ALA conferences, plus embracing our role as hosts for our international ALA members and visitors. We will also continue our work editing the IRRT Bylaws, sponsoring an ALA Emerging Leader, and growing the IRRT Endowment—with a special focus on how best to utilize these funds for the support and enrichment of ALA international initiatives.

After attending some amazing programs at IFLA in Columbus, I have decided that my focus for the upcoming year is to promote the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) supported by the United Nations Development Programme and adopted by 150 world leaders. I will focus specifically on the opportunities for libraries and librarians to work with the UNDP in their fight against injustice, poverty, inequality, and climate change. These SDGs and the preceding Millennium Development Goals are closely related to my interest and research on the topic of INGOs and NGOs supporting sustainable libraries in developing countries. I am excited to have the opportunity to help other librarians learn more about making a global impact while at the same time enriching their own local communities, careers, and lives.

I encourage all IRRT members to volunteer to serve as an officer, committee chair, or committee member—your first opportunity will be a call for IRRT officer nominations (via email to all members), to be made before ALA Midwinter, 2017. You may also volunteer to serve as a committee member throughout the year at our IRRT Committees page: <http://www.ala.org/irrt/irrtcommittees/committees>. Appointing officer for the year is our Chair-Elect, Loida Garcia-Febo.

Looking forward to working with many of you. May the upcoming year be filled with accomplishments, collaboration, happiness, and surprises.

(Message from Vice Chair / Chair Elect 2016-2017 on next page)

IRRT Executive Board



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Richard Sapon-White

John Hickok

Loida Garcia-Febo



Message from the IRRT Chair Elect

Loida Garcia-Febo
IRRT Chair-Elect (2016-2017)

This is an exciting year for the IRRT. I would like to thank the membership for making the IRRT the largest Round Table of the ALA including great librarians from all over the globe. Their energy and enthusiasm make possible programs and opportunities for many to engage in international librarianship. This year, we continue with a successful mentoring program bringing together librarians from different world regions. Our Endowment is growing strong to benefit our membership and allow us to expand our reach.

I am looking forward to continue working with so many dedicated colleagues in the IRRT to develop initiatives to increase opportunities for our membership to meet their international needs, continue growing strong international professionals, and keep ALA as a leader within global librarianship.

I bring my experience with boards from various library and global not-for-profit organizations. As well as my international librarianship experience from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) where I am a Governing Board Member and the Chair of the its core activity, Action for Development through Libraries Program (ALP) which oversees capacity building via the International Leaders Program and the Building Strong Library Associations Program (BSLA) in

all regions of the world. Additionally, advocacy in various arenas including the role of libraries and access to information within the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations where I have advocated for libraries for many years.

I am eager to work with you all as a great team to continue developing global initiatives to promote engagement in discussions about libraries and society. This is a continuation of my association's work where I have developed mechanisms to nurture and strengthen new professionals, and trained librarians about topics related to human rights, advocacy and free access to information and freedom of expression.

As a researcher I have studied diverse, multilingual and multiethnic populations, and the state of new librarians globally among other topics. I am proud to share that library associations around the globe have

adopted resulting recommendations. As a member of the Executive Board of the ALA, I have strategized plans related to advocacy, information policies and professional and leadership development, our association's strategic goals.

Together we can do great things!



BLOG

**Ways to Connect
with IRRT:**

Like us on
facebook 

The East West University Library

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This program is mandatory for the students for their library membership. The East West University Library has developed guidelines for its patrons to show them where to find owned materials such as books and other materials, how to access these materials, and how and where to find journals articles as well. In addition, the EWU has been using social networks to engage in marketing and promotional activities.

The benefits of using social media for libraries are promoting library resources and services, increasing the value of the organization, encouraging patrons to study at libraries, and of course changing perceptions about libraries.

Today's libraries are in danger of



Liberation War Corner

losing their role as the foremost information provider as we can realize that patrons turn to search engines as their starting point to do research. An interesting fact is that

students who do not attend our Information Literacy Program rely on Google for searching, but they get confused about finding accurate information for their research. In the end, they come to the library and seek information. Most of the time I work in references services. I used to find two types of patrons; first, those who never used a library before and do not know how to use a library, and second, those who have already attended the

Information Literacy Program. When helping patrons find what they might need, I use various techniques, such as making the session personal and interactive for



EWU Library, Main Entrance

naïve users and keeping their contact details for following up with them on their subsequent questions.

For experienced users, on the other hand, I try to create an environment for them that encourages them to be library-oriented. Another tip for encouraging my patrons is to choose those patrons who fully understand the value of libraries, and how they can make use of library resources, and what their outcomes will be. This approach can be more practicable and can strongly impact the perceived value of libraries among patrons.

By providing references services, librarians can offer skilled research help and can promote the worth of library for society. Librarians can be the best search engine because they know how information is organized, indexed and abstracted. However, librarians have to have the ability to leverage hard and specialized knowledge, provide good responses and offer timely feedback. Librarians can encourage patrons not to Google every query, but instead come to ask me. I will reach out to patrons with a big smile.

John Ames Humphrey Award—OCLC Forest Press Award: “Sure, Why Not?”

By Nancy Bolt

In 1994, I think, I received a phone call from Bob Doyle, then the director of the ALA International Relations Office, asking if I would be willing to take a Bulgarian Librarian at the Colorado State Library to work for 5 months. I said three words that changed my life and the lives of hundreds of Bulgarian and U.S. librarians. I said “Sure, why not?”

Iska Maihailova, a librarian from the National Library of Bulgaria came to the Colorado State Library for those five months, moved back to Bulgaria, and began a series of jobs that led to being added to the Bulgarian Parliament and then to the European Parliament by the citizens of Bulgaria.

This experience began my rewarding and educational involvement with international librarianship. I am honored to have received the John Ames Humphrey/OCLC/Forest Press Award for my work over the last 20 years.

I would like to thank OCLC first for sponsoring the award. Their generosity helps bring attention to the important area of international librarianship. As technology makes our world smaller, it is crucial that U.S. librarians understand the issues facing librarians around the world and

how we must work together to achieve access to information for all. Policy issues discussed and decisions made by international organizations impact U.S. librarians as well.

I would also like to thank IRRT for its support of the award. Thanks to all the international and U.S. libraries who have showed their enthusiasm for and willingness to share their knowledge and experience with each other and allow me to be a part of it. Thank you to the Colorado Library International and Cultural Exchange Interest Group of the Colorado Association of Libraries, for all of their support through the years.

I’m pleased to be able to share this award with two groups: \$500 will go to IRRT and \$500 will go to the Colorado Project. I encourage U.S. librarians to become involved in international librarianship.



**Award winner Nancy Bolt
with Sari Feldman, ALA**

*My best advice when given the opportunity to
work with librarians around the world- say
“Sure, why not?”*



Enhancing International Students' Library and Academic Skills at the University of Windsor, Canada

*By Guoying (Grace) Liu and
Karen Pillon*

Canadian Universities have experienced a significant increase in the enrollment of international students in the past decade. (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 2015) At the University of Windsor, 17 percent of students are international, coming from nearly 100 countries in the world. (University of Windsor, n. d.) Although this pushes forward the purpose of global education and supports academic exchange, it comes with challenges to students, professors and institutions. One of these challenges is for students to acclimate to the Western academic system – specifically around the idea

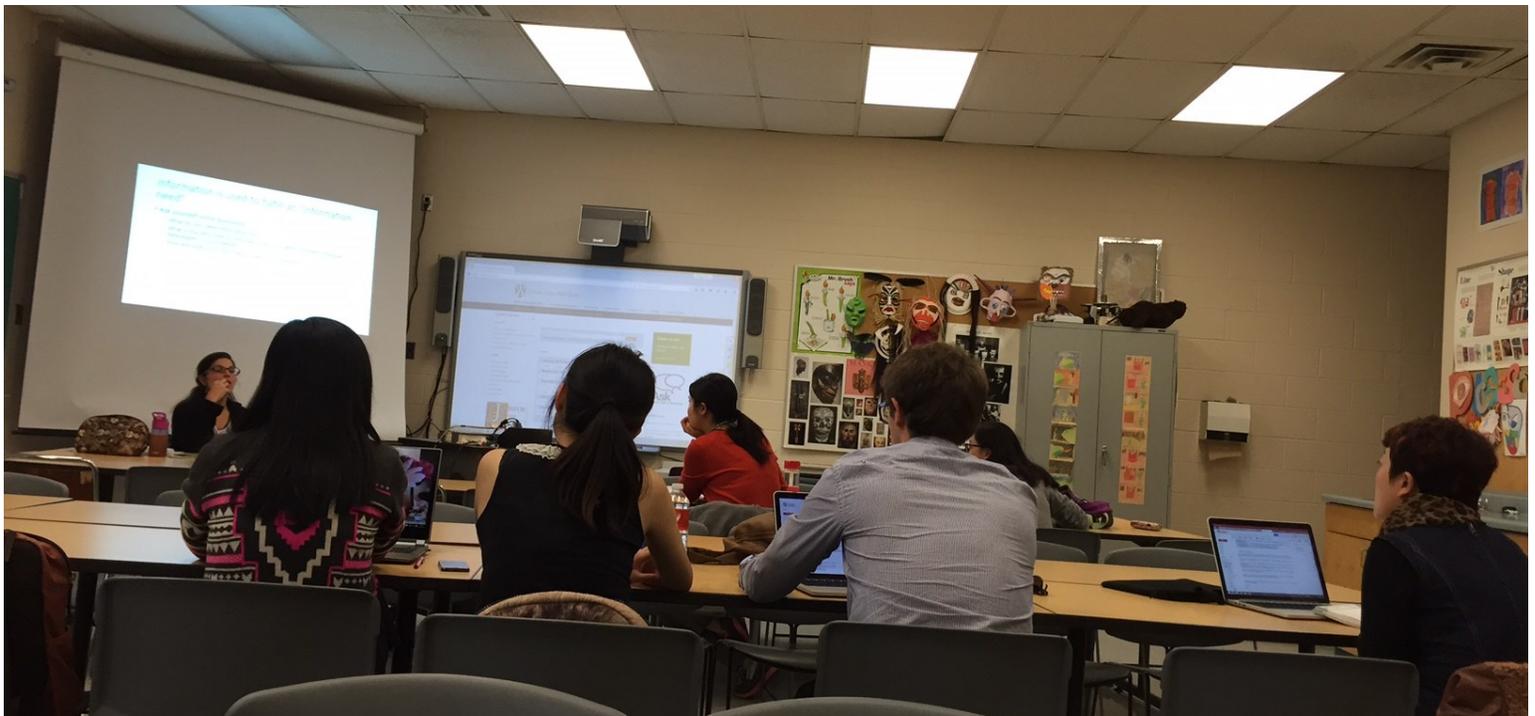
of information literacy and plagiarism.

In 2013, when thinking about how to create a positive pathway to success for these students, a team of researchers including librarians and faculty members from the Faculty of Education along with the Vice-Provost Students and International embarked on a journey to figure out how to enhance the library and academic skills of international students at the University of Windsor. This was done with the support of the Strategic Priority Fund at the University of Windsor. During the application for the fund, we also gained support from the Dean of the Library, the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Education and the International Student

Center.

The team started by completing an environmental scan, including a literature review, of international students' library and academic skills as well as academic integrity. The team also consulted librarians, who directly worked with international students, in a variety of subject areas. Following this, the team reached out to professors who taught classes which had a large cohort of international students. Two major reoccurring issues were identified in the area of information literacy skills and plagiarism.

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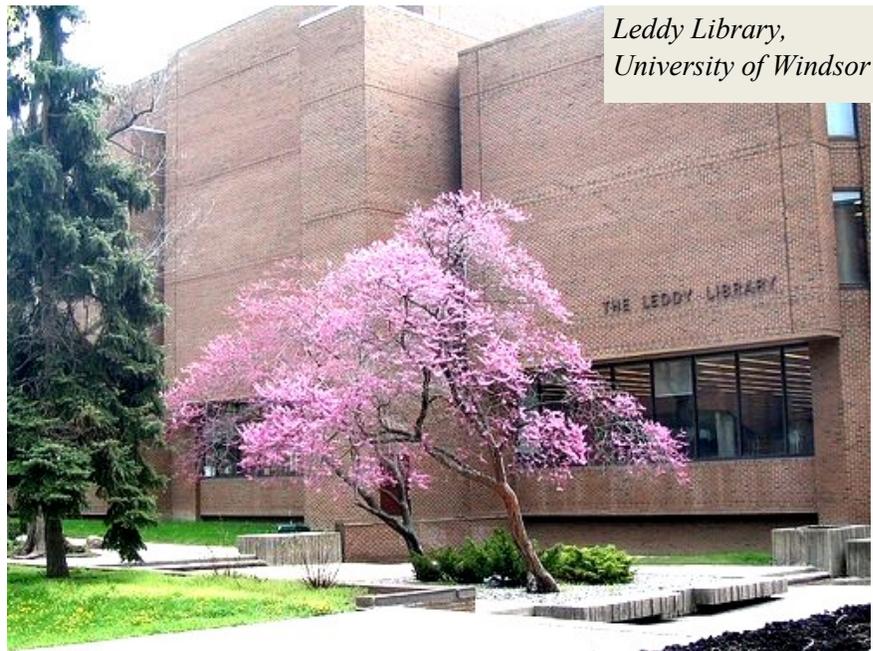


International students at University of Windsor

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With this knowledge, the team started to develop workshops to tackle both issues. In 2014-2015, we delivered these workshops to the classes at the English Language Improvement Program, and the Center for Executive and Professional Education namely the Master of Management Program, as well as Masters of Education students. About 900 international students benefited from these workshops. In some of these instances the team took the opportunity to use a pre-test and post-test instrument to gauge whether the students were internalizing the information. An added benefit was that it helped to improve the workshop design. Additionally, the team offered the workshop to the Graduate Student Society (including both international and non-international students) in collaboration with the International Student Center.

In light of advances in online education, the team further created online modules that mimicked the workshops that were delivered to the students in the physical classrooms. These modules were developed based on both the ALA information literacy standards and the newer Framework for Information literacy for higher education. There are six modules in total and once all six modules are successfully completed, the participants will receive a certificate of completion. This certificate was made in consultation with the Center for



Leddy Library,
University of Windsor

Teaching and Learning on campus. Furthermore, the modules encourage self-paced learning where the student can save their progress and come back to it at a later date. Lastly, the modules were designed with an international student who is part of the conversation during the videos.

These modules will be placed on the library website and also on the specific web pages for subjects where heavy international student enrollment is seen. An added benefit is that these modules have the potential to be seen by domestic students as well as international students. Another strategy will be for the liaison librarians to promote these modules in their classes.

In June, the team created a poster that was presented at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando Florida and was well received by the conference delegates from all over the world. Through this project, the team

hopes that this initiative will be a starting point for other institutions in Canada and beyond to promote information literacy skills and collaboration on issues surrounding international students and their Western experiences.

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University of Windsor. (n. d.). *University of Windsor Fast Facts*. Retrieved from <http://www.uwindsor.ca/45/fast-facts>

Give a Book, Change a Life: Cape Town Book Donation Project Outcomes

by Valarie Hunsinger on behalf of the ALA IRC Africa Subcommittee, photos courtesy of Laddy McKechnie, the LIASA Western Cape Chair

Hundreds of children in Cape Town, South Africa, were given the gift of books, audio books, and DVDs, through the incredible collaboration and donation of librarians all over the world. Through the **Give a Book, Change a Life: Cape Town Book Donation Project** developed by the Africa Subcommittee of ALA's International Relations Committee (IRC) in partnership with the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), and the Libraries for Children and Young Adults (CHILD) Section of IFLA, over 500 library resources were collected during the 2015 IFLA Congress in Cape Town (To read more about the development of this project click on this link: [Gift a Book, Change a Life: Cape Town Book Donation Project.](#))

LIASA nominated five schools to receive these donations including Westbank No. 1 Primary School, Dal Josephal, Bridgeville Primary, Aurora Primary and BF Oosthuizen. Books were personally delivered on November 30th, 2015 to 3 schools, and two schools received books via courier. After distributions, over 100 audiobooks and visual DVDs remained. It was decided that these crucial resources would be donated to a school for special needs children. In March 2016, during the 2016 South African Library Week, the audiobooks and DVDs were delivered to the Eros School (School for Cerebral Palsy) in Bridgetown. These inclusive resources will be instrumental in allowing all learners to enjoy learning and

experience the joy of reading.

As members of the IRC Africa Subcommittee, we would like to thank all those who donated to this opportunity and we would like to share pictures from the recipient libraries. As Laddy McKechnie, the LIASA Western Cape Chair shared, "The smiles on the learners' faces when receiving these books tell you how much they really appreciated it."

As Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". Gifting these books not only spread the joys of reading but support educational possibilities for these library patrons. We have seen how libraries and librarians can transform communities, but now through this project, we can see how much can be accomplished when librarians from all over the world work together.

Thank you again for your donations and special thank you to the leadership of Laverne Page, Immediate Past Chair of IRC's Africa Subcommittee, Segametsi Molawa, President of LIASA, Ujala Satgoor, Immediate Past President of LIASA, Viviana Quiñones, Chair of IFLA CHILD, Loida Garcia Febo, and the ALA IRC and all the members of the committees involved.



Westbank No. 1 Primary School—Delft



Daal Josephal - Paarl



Bridgeville Primary—Bridgetown



Eros School (school for cerebral palsy) - Bridgetown

Two Colorado Universities Receive Grants to Promote Cultural Understanding

By Kathy Plath



Congratulations to the Colorado State University –Pueblo librarians

The Colorado Association of Libraries and the International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group is pleased to announce that University Archives at Colorado State University-Pueblo and the University Library at the University of Colorado at Boulder have both received grants of \$1500 for programs that enhance cultural understanding.

The CSU-Pueblo Archive's project will support an exhibit and public presentation relating to *La Cucaracha*, a project focusing on the Chicano Movement in the San Luis Valley. The traveling exhibit and presentation will include enlargements of newspaper articles, excerpts from oral history interviews, and artifacts highlighting issues such as bi-lingual education, land grant disputes, discrimination in Pueblo schools, the student movement at CU-Boulder and CSU-Pueblo, and access to health care for Hispanic populations in Pueblo. The exhibit will be on display at the CSU-Pueblo library and then travel throughout the state.

A panel discussion about *La Cucaracha* will be hosted by CSU-Pueblo, including people interviewed for the

project and Project Director, Jose Ortega, will take place during Hispanic Heritage Month.

University Archivist, Beverly Allen, said "This grant will help further the Archives mission to preserve the ethnic heritage of Southern Colorado and to educate Colorado citizens about a little known, but important, part of history."



The University of Colorado at Boulder project seeks to strengthen existing relationships and form new partnerships with international students and student organizations. In the fall of 2015, CU Boulder had a total of 2446 students from over 100 countries. The library recognizes a need to promote intercultural understanding and inclusivity

www.ala.org/irrt

by creating programs that foster student engagement, belonging, and participation to embrace the evolving culture at CU. The university library will be working with the Office of International Education, the Office of Diversity Affairs, the International Student and Scholar Services, and the Cultural Unity and Engagement Services, and the Cultural Unity and Engagement Center. The project will include activities such as an international photo contest on "Libraries and Information Landscapes," an international talent show, and "speed friending."

Beth Dalton, Outreach and Services Specialist at the library said: "The University of Colorado Boulder Libraries are grateful to ILCE-IG for its generous grant, which will support new international programming within our library system."

The Colorado Association of Libraries International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG) has two main goals: to support individual and library partnerships and activities that enhance cultural understanding and to support cultural programming and activities that celebrate ethnic and immigrant cultures in Colorado. Janet Lee, Chair of the CAL Interest Group said: "We are pleased to provide these grants to UC-Pueblo and CU-Boulder. They help us to further our goals and promote the understanding of all the vibrant cultures that live and visit Colorado."



For further information, contact Kathy Plath at cal.ilceig@gmail.com

A Journey to the IRRT Endowment Fund

by Shali Zhang
IRRT Global Leaders Campaign
Ad Hoc Committee Chair, 2015-
2016



IRRT 60th anniversary cake in 2009

At the International Librarians' Reception during the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, John Hickok, IRRT Chair (2015-2016), announced that the IRRT fundraising campaign raised over \$45,000. Thus, with additional \$5,000 to be contributed by IRRT, the goal to establish an IRRT Endowment of \$50,000 was achieved. The funding generated from the Endowment fund will support IRRT's international activities and initiatives which contribute to ALA's important role in international librarianship. Each year the funding from the Endowment will be able to provide support for international speakers and programs; promote a global dialogue about librarianship; increase visibility of international opportunities for U.S. and international librarians, and encourage international collaboration in librarianship.

Back in 2009 -

The journey to raise the fund and to establish the IRRT Endowment began in 2009, on the occasion of celebrating IRRT's 60th anniversary. The IRRT Executive Committee approved the fundraising initiative then.

Jordan Scepaniski and Lea H. Wells, a husband-and-wife team, took the lead and co-chaired the first ad hoc committee to raise funds. The members included Judith Lin Hunt, Donna McCool, Patricia Oyler, Jeannette Pierce, Win Shih, and Shali Zhang. Both Jordan and Lea chaired IRRT in 1990/91 and 2001/02 respectively. They were very active on many projects and initiatives of IRRT and IRC. Under their strong leadership, over 80 IRRT members responded to the calls for donations; over \$10,000 was raised by June 2010. The initial stage of the fundraising project was a huge success. Jordan and Lea sent their hand-written thank-you notes to these IRRT donors. In keeping the momentum at the subsequent ALA annual conferences and mid-winter meetings, both Jordan and Lea spoke at various meetings and asked for donations during that period of time.

To help sustain the fundraising efforts, the IRRT Executive Com-

mittee decided to have an official ad hoc committee for the task when Loriene Roy and Carol R.Kem chaired IRRT 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. Jamie Luedtke (chair), Jeannette Pierce, Susan Schnuer, and Shali Zhang served on the ad hoc committee throughout June 2015. A "Big Push" prior to the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco in 2015 helped push the donated funds to over \$30,000 in total. We saw the light at the end of the tunnel to reach the goal of \$50,000 for the IRRT Endowment then. At the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, Jeannette Pierce spoke eloquently on the new IRRT Global Leaders Campaign at the International Librarians Reception, "We hope that many of you will be able to contribute some large or small amount to the IRRT Global Leaders Campaign over the coming months. Any amount makes a difference."



Judith Lin Hunt, IRRT Chair,
2008-9

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Fast forward -

In July 2015, when John Hickok became the IRRT Chair, he appointed the ad hoc committee which he called a “Powerhouse.” Shali Zhang (IRRT Chair in 2009-2010) chaired the committee, with the members of Nancy Bolt, past IRRT Chair; Barbara J. Ford, past ALA President; Carol R. Kem, past IRRT Chair; and Jeanette Pierce, past IRRT Chair. This “Powerhouse” committee determined to get to the finish-line and to complete the seven-year fundraising efforts by the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, in June 2016. Throughout the year, the ad hoc committee members sent out numerous messages; personally contacted their friends and colleagues for donations; consulted with the ALA Development Officer for necessary procedures, and contributed the funds by setting up examples. Their hard work was certainly paid off. At the 2016 ALA Annual Conference, IRRT Chair Hickok presented the “Powerhouse” members with a certificate of appreciation that reads “Your wonderful fundraising efforts this year have been worth a million dollars,” with an attached “Million Dollar” chocolate bar.

Into the future -

Reaching the goal of the IRRT Endowment (\$50,000) is the first step toward sustaining IRRT’s efforts supporting its international activities and initiatives. The ad hoc team members are continuing



Jordan Scepanski and Lea H. Wells with Claudia Lux, IFLA President, 2007-2009, at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference. Scepanski holds the fundraising poster with a list of donors.)

the journey with all IRRT members to assist in raising funds and in establishing procedures to award the selected projects and programs in the near future.

In celebration of the milestone of the IRRT fundraising efforts, with a \$50,000 IRRT Endowment, I would like to thank IRRT members who contributed to this fundraising campaign. Their time, efforts, and funds will help make a difference! I also want to give big thanks to Nancy, Barbara, Carol, Jeanette, and John who worked

tirelessly on this project last year. Their enthusiasm, passion, and actions contributed to the success of this project.

The journey to sustain the IRRT Endowment will continue. We look forward to your ongoing support to this project.



Ad Hoc committee members at the reception: Jeanette Pierce, Carol R. Kem, Barbara Ford, Shali Zhang, Nancy Bolt