MAHLAP

NEWSLETTER

Inside this issue:

MAHLAP 3rd Outreach Program

In the 1st MAHLAP Outreach program for 2005, MAHLAP Board led by its president, Aida Aracap, visited Rizal Shrine, in Calamba City on May 26.   They arrived around 10:00AM, and was welcomed by the Rizal Shrine's OIC, Maria Luisa Valeza, together with her staff. The children were already organized and patiently waiting for the activities to begin.

Thelma Trinidad, vice president, being the facilitator, started the ball rolling by introducing herself. The children introduced themselves too, though somewhat shy they tried to express themselves. The children were asked to tell stories about what they know of our national hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal. It was a happy occasion where we found out that even street children knew some stories about our national hero.

After the story telling, Aida Aracap gave a short talk on the importance of books.

She also encouraged the children to come to the Shrine to read books. It was Valeza's project to have a small public library in the shrine. This was the reason why we conducted the outreach in the shrine and also donated 150 volumes of children's books. We solicited these books   from Unang Lingap Kapwa Philippines.

 MAHLAP shared love to 38 little angels (32 of whom are street children and 6 are abandoned children housed in Bahay ni Maria.   They were given sumptuous meals courtesy of Hon Dyan Del Valle Espiridion, Calamba City Councilor.

Fely Juanillo

2 MAHLAP Board Members Resigned, Mark Bendo on board

Ms. Marie Eugene Real tendered her resignation as Member of the Board in May 2005 for she felt that she can no longer serve the association well as officer because she cannot attend then board meetings and other activities regularly. She was advised by her obstetrician to refrain from long distance travel and to avoid fatigue due to her delicate pregnancy. As a matter of fact Ms. Real also resigned from PCHRD and is now working in a school library close to their house.

Not long after Ms. Real's resignation, Ms. Mercedes Cruz followed. When Ms. Cruz resigned from Makati Medical Center as Medical Librarian in July 2005 she also gave up her position as Auditor of MAHLAP.

To fill one of the vacancies, the MAHLAP board requested Mr. Mark Gil Bendo of the WHO-WPRO Library to take over the remaining term of Ms. Real as member of the board and he accepted the position.   Mr. Bendo garnered the highest number of votes in the last election but declined from accepting the position due to his tight schedules at that time.

Ms. Aida Aracap

THE NATIONAL UNION LIST OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH PERIODICALS (1900-2002)

Library networking and resource sharing had its beginning in the early eighties. At the same time, medical and health librarians and other information handlers felt the need to organize themselves; purposely to coordinate activities as to access, exchange and/or deliver information materials not available in their respective libraries. Thus, the founding of Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP) on February 20, 1988.

The Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP) is a nationwide organization of medical and health librarians from the academe, government and private hospitals; and information specialists from health research institutions and drug companies.

The first major project of MAHLAP was the compilation of the National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals, 1970-1989. It was published in 1990. There were 43 participating libraries, with 1,656 periodical titles, with full bibliographic citations and holding data of each participating library. Subject and geographical indexes are also provided for easy access.

The second volume, National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals 1900-1995 was published in 1997. This is an expanded volume, since the coverage goes back as early as 1900 and updated until 1995. This time there are 61 participating libraries, with new titles added to the original list. This volume has a total of 2,317 titles entries. It has the same features as the first volume; alphabetically arranged by title, with complete bibliographic citations, holdings data of each library, subject and geographical index.

Primarily, the Union List serves as a finding tool and ready reference for researchers as to the availability of local and foreign medical and health periodicals in the different medical libraries and information centers in the country.

The National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals was compiled and published through the cooperative and collaborative efforts of the Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines, (MAHLAP), Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) and World Health Organization, Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO/WPRO).

The rapid development of information technology, the awareness and demands for electronic resources as well as the medical librarians expressed perspective on the pressures influencing scholarly communication, their concern on how electronic information exchange can continue to produce incentives for individuals to create and make available new knowledge and the emergence of the internet and the web as an alternative means of disseminating knowledge brought about the idea of publishing the National Union of List of Medical and Health Periodicals, 1996-2002 into a web based version.

On July 10, 2002 MAHLAP submitted to PCHRD, a project proposal for funding, with the objective of publishing an on-line version of the printed National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals; subsequently it was approved on September 30, 2002.

The objectives of the project are; 1.) To update the print and electronic subscription into a web version of the 1996-2002 National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals; 2.) To provide a reference tool for quick location of information materials, as aid to interlibrary arrangement and document delivery system between and among the medical and health libraries in the country; 3.) To encourage resource sharing in a network environment where libraries' serial holdings are accessible and available; and 4.) To establish a sustainable system of updating the National Union List.

Our foray into the world of on-line publishing was indeed an exciting and most challenging not only to MAHLAP; but also to the

MANAGING A HYBRID LIBRARY: THE CASE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES

The National Library (TNL) of the Philippines in its leadership role among the nation's libraries can be the role model of a hybrid library in the country. My paper therefore shall focus on Managing A Hybrid Library: the Case of the National Library of the Philippines.

HYBRID LIBRARY:
   a. generally defined as a library in which electronic and print-based resources or information sources are made available together in an integrated way for consultation by users, local and remote.
   b. the middle point between the traditional library and the fully digital library.
   c. managed blend of traditional and electronic resources.
   d. a coined word to describe the way in which the libraries of the future will function.

NATIONAL LIBRARY – is a library funded out of national government money and is primarily mandated as the

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A hybrid library is conceptualized to cover services that unite the functions of the traditional library with those of electronic, digital or virtual library services. Majority of the developed countries are widely using hybrid libraries. A hybrid library maybe developed at the local, the national and the international level.

It is envisaged as the bringing together of technologies from electronic, digital or virtual library projects which have been taking place around the world. In our country, a hybrid library was born through the conceptualization and implementation of the Philippine eLibrary project which will be discussed later in this paper. In addition, the electronic products and services already in libraries and the historical functions of our local physical libraries, TNL as an example..

In UK, an extended hybrid library concept beyond the library domain is coined as hybrid information environment which can be described as one where appropriate range of heterogeneous information services is presented to the user in a consistent and integrated way via a

Continuation…

NATIONAL LIBRARIES AS HYBRID LIBRAR-IES

National libraries in the future will function as hybrid libraries. Their mandate as the repository of the cultural memory and national record will demand them to continue to acquire, retain and preserve materials in all formats, traditional and electronic while they provide access to knowledge and information and offer services to all users, internally and externally, from their integrated resources.

As hybrid libraries, national libraries will generally function actively at the two main levels in their own countries. National libraries will function as individual hybrid libraries making resources and services available from their traditional physical collections and from the integration of local and remote electronic and digital resources.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY (TNL) OF THE PHILIPPINES

The National Library saw the need to redefine itself in the midst of an emerging digital world. As a research library too, a need for a systems environment that shall provide services to its users an integrated access to both physical and online; collection and item; whole or part; commercial with free; significant with transient and local with remote facilities.

Further as the national library, there is a need to put systems in place to ensure development of services that would address these needs as part of the national information structure.

When TNL was asked by the National Computer Center (NCC) to formulate an Integrated Systems Plan (ISP) as a requirement in its computerization program, an initial 6-yr plan (1994-1999) was designed and approved. Due to financial constraints it was partially implemented through the National Library Information Network (NLIN) and the Public Libraries Information Network (PUBLIN) upon selection of 25 public libraries as participants. After evaluating the first program, management decided to upgrade its software requirement. It called for an updated ISP. Another 4-year plan (2000-2003) was designed and submitted to NCC for approval. A software with a dataset independent protocol,Z39.50 was utilized to facilitate integration in a diverse interface. Since then, TNL's computerization program is progressing.

TNL subscribes to the statement that "national libraries be strongly involved cooperatively with other libraries in their country in building "national electronic libraries" which will generally be 'country-or-state based' and will bring together the resources of the country's libraries for the benefit of users, national and international". This is the very essence why as the leader among the nation's libraries as well as the repository of the written or printed cultural heritage of the country, TNL is one of the principal stakeholders of a 2004 eGovernment funded project of PhP 166,770,000 called the Philippine eLibrary. The Philippine eLibrary Project gained the approval from ITECC now the CICT or Commission on Information and Communications Technology during the last quarter of 2003.

A collaborative undertaking of the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Agriculture, Commission for Higher Education, The National Library and the University of the Philippines, it aims to put or integrate together through a single portal all bibliographic databases of these agencies. There are more than 800,000 records initially uploaded in its database. It offers twenty million digitized images of significant Filipiniana titles of these agencies. Moreover it has subscribed

to online databases that contain more than 28,000 journals. To facilitate access and retrieval of information and to cater information that will enhance and update the knowledge and skills of farmers, fisherfolks, housewives and the less privileged members of society are among the Project's objectives. These objectives of the national electronic library, Philippine eLib, shall be achieved upon deployment of kiosks nationwide in the various offices, institutions, regional offices and public libraries of the participating government agencies.

TNL houses the data center of the Project and a kiosk provided with more than adequate terminals at the ground floor where patrons can conveniently avail of the resources. Minimal fees are charged to users upon downloading full text materials as well as articles from electronic journals.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY'S RESPONSI-BILITIES AS A HYBRID LIBRARY

The National Library of the Philippines has developed as a hybrid library in line with developments in other national libraries. Management has been reviewing regularly its functions and services in order to identify any resources that may be redeployed and functions that may now be irrelevant or overlapping. As hybrid library, more resources are needed for sustainability and operability of its new role. Management has then been seeking for outside resources to supplement what the government has been providing. This is undertaken in order to advance new developments both within and outside TNL and for the advancement of digital and electronic environment.

As a hybrid library, TNL shall maintain and continue its collection development of printed materials and conserve and preserve them either in digital or in electronic format. It shall harness technologies needed to integrate materials in the traditional or new format to expedite service to users, local or remote. There are new responsibilities as hybrid libraries that include shifts in the balance of effort, skills and functions. The main elements are:

A. Electronic Publications - TNL must identify, select, describe, provide access to, and preserve Filipiniana electronic publications whether published locally or abroad and make them part of the Philippine National Bibliography (PNB). Since legal deposit publications also form part of the PNB, the Legal Deposit Legislation (PD812) has to be amended to cover online electronic publications. Strict implementation of the Law must be supported by the Government.

B. Digital Resources - TNL shall continue the digitization activity initiated by the Philippine eLibrary project. Print collections which were excluded in the Project's digitization but bear great significance and use to local and international researchers or scholars shall be also digitized. To fulfill it preservation and conservation function, materials in hard copy should first be microfilmed as being done in the eLibrary Project prior to their digitization.

It shall expand and regularly update its public Website, www.nlp.gov.ph in order to provide more extensive information about its comprehensive collections and the variety of services it offers.

The Philippine eLibrary project has another website: www.elib.gov.ph

C. Describing the Resources - TNL shall keep abreast of upgrades in adopting International Standards when describing or organizing its collections including those in electronic or digital formats. The activity will ensure the convenient access to bibliographic and full text information by users.

D. Services - TNL should keep users be updated on information about the variety of services it offers. Information dissemination shall be done through use of different media such as broadcast or print.

Conclusion

Managing TNL as a hybrid library is not an easy task. There are several implications in a hybrid library. Foremost is the rapid change in information technological, hardware and software requirements. Let us admit that IT is a very expensive investment and not all library users admire the technological development happening in our workplace. Also, the long-term preservation of electronic and digital information for future users of the collection as well as staff training since not all staff are technically prepared to manage or handle the hybrid collections and facilities for users satisfaction definitely call for more financial resources. Needless to say, management needs more resources to make TNL as truly effective hybrid library.

Finally, an integrated library management system is an important component in the delivery of hybrid library services. Thank you for your listening pleasure.

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You are Invited….

XIIIth CONFERENCE
CONGRESS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN LIBRARIANS (CONSAL) 2006
Manila, Philippines

10 March 2005

Dear

The Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL) was established in 1970 in response to a growing sense of Southeast Asian identity among librarians and information professionals. CONSAL membership comprises the national library associations and the national libraries of the ASEAN countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. CONSAL convenes a General Conference triennially in each country in rotation. CONSAL II and VII were held in Manila in 1973 and 1987, respectively. In 2006, the Philippines will host the CONSAL XIII General Conference.

On behalf of the CONSAL XIII Organizing Committee and the CONSAL XIII Executive Board, we are pleased to invite you to attend the 2006 CONSAL XIII General Conference to be held in EDSA, Shangri-La Hotel, Ortigas Center, Philippines from March 27-30, 2006. This is one occasion for us to be with our counterparts from all over Asia and other parts of the world. We shall have the opportunity to show them that our profession is recognized, dynamic, cohesive and we Filipino librarians are all cooperative and hospitable.

We are looking forward to having you in CONSAL XIII (2006) and together reap the success of this event.

Very truly yours,

ANTONIO M. SANTOS
Over-All Chairman
CONSAL XIII Organizing Committee

Note:

3-day MAHLAP annual convention will not be held (instead we will have a one day forum on February 2006 to heed the call of PLAI not to hold conferences and seminars between the last quarter of 2005 and the first quarter of 2006 to give way and to support the forthcoming XIIIth Conference of CONSAL (Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians) which will be held in Manila on March 25-30, 2006.

Forgot to pay your membership fee?

You may pay your *Membership Fee* during the MAHLAP Forum entitled "***Living a Healthful Life in a Healthy Environment"*** on September 2, 2005 at the World Trade Center, Pasay City. ***We hope to see you there!***

Attention MAHLAP Members

We want to hear from you!

First, Please send your reactions, comments or feedback to *MAHLAP Newsletter*. Article contributions are also welcomed. *Second,* we wish you to recommend new possible MAHLAP members and write any information on them that we can feature here in our newsletter. These could be one way of welcoming them as a part of MAHLAP Family. You may send it thru this e-mail address:

mahlap_1988@yahoo.com

Register to our yahoogroup:

mahlap_1988-subscribe@yahoo.groups.com