

Minutes of ALRA (Australian Library Resources Group)
Annual General Meeting 2016

Date: Wednesday, 6 July, 2-3pm

Venues:

- Canberra site: National Library of Australia
- Melbourne site: Matheson Library (Monash University Library)

Attendees

- **Canberra site:** Amy Chan (chair), Friederike Schimmelpfennig, Darrell Dorrington, Rebecca Wong, Di Pin Ouyang, Mayumi Shinozaki, Tieke Atikah, Xiaoli Li,
- **Melbourne site:** Aline Scott-Maxwell (minute-taker), Jung-Sim Kim, Ayako Hatta, Xiaoju Liu, Hueimin Chen

Agenda:

1. Minutes of last meeting
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Reports from:
 - President and ASAA Council representative
 - Treasurer
 - Newsletter Editor
 - Web maintainer
4. Announcement of appointment of interim Treasurer.
5. Updates from libraries: ANU, NLA, Monash University/University of Melbourne
6. Asian Libraries in Melbourne – update and discussion of subscription database resource
7. Any Other Business

Minutes:

ITEM 1. Minutes of last meeting

Two small corrections to the minutes were requested. Under ‘method of meeting’ (p.1), the second sentence should read: The meeting was very successful with 19 EARLGA members, including four members from Monash University participating’. Under Item 7, the beginning of the second paragraph should read: ‘Darrell reminded everyone that our next issue of July EARLGA Newsletter will be published late and that items should be submitted by the end of August 2015.’

The changes were accepted. The minutes were confirmed by Amy Chan and seconded by Rebecca Wong.

ITEM 2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

ITEM 3a. Reports from President and ASAA Council Representative

The reports were tabled and are attached to the minutes. There was clarification about the 'home archives', which are personal archives held by individual researchers. The project will involve making a call for material and listing it on the ALRA website. The aim is to facilitate communication between owners and potential users of the material.

The process of maintaining the ASAA Council Library rep position was discussed. Biannual elections for the council will take place between August and October this year. Council members (including the library rep) and nominees all need to be members of ASAA. It was decided that ALRA should sponsor the membership of the library rep on the Council. The interest from the ALRA bank account will only cover one membership, so we will have to use friends in ASAA to make nominations.

Amy asked whether ALRA should create a special committee position for the ASAA Council library representative.

The President's report was accepted by Aline Scott-Maxwell and seconded by Darrell Dorrington. The ASAA Council Representative report was accepted by Darrell Dorrington and seconded by Di Pin Ouyang.

ITEM 3b. Treasurer's Report

The report was tabled and is attached to the minutes. Rebecca reported a balance of \$8174.87 in ALRA's account with \$206.47 earned in interest in the past year. There was an expression of thanks to Jung-Sim for her donation of the cost of the web domain for 2 years. Since this has been the only expense, all the interest has been saved and is sufficient to cover a single ASAA membership (as per Item 3a above). The interest rate is likely to drop further but the interest will also be able to cover the web domain fee in 2 years time. The balance will be put in a term deposit account for 1 year at the rate of 3%, to be renewed on 7 September.

It was noted that funds have been used previously to pay for bookmarks and to support members registering for conferences. The meeting agreed that the capital shouldn't be spent, but any future surplus funds could be used to support particular ventures on a one-off basis.

Rebecca will provide an updated Treasurer's report that incorporates proposed expenditure on one ASAA membership.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by Aline Scott-Maxwell and seconded by Amy Chan.

ITEM 3c. Newsletter Editor's Report

Jung-Sim and Darrell are still working on getting the current issue out as there has been a late submission. Jung-Sim asked what name to use for the special issue of the newsletter that will contain reports from the ASAA conference. It was decided that it won't have a number and will be called ALRA Newsletter Special Issue 2016.

The Newsletter Editor's report was accepted by Amy Chan and seconded by Di Ouyang.

ITEM 3d. Web Maintainer's Report

The report was tabled and is attached to the minutes. Jung-Sim reminded the meeting that there is a 40kb limit for the mailing list and therefore it is not possible to send attachments. The statistics in the report are only for the period from 23 October 2015. Jung-Sim noted that hits on the website are mainly from overseas. This may be due to google searches on ALRA for other organisations with the same initials.

The Web Maintainer's report was accepted by Darrell Dorrington and seconded by Rebecca Wong.

ITEM 4. Announcement of appointment of interim Treasurer

Rebecca is stepping down as Treasurer and Di Pin Ouyang will take over the position.

There was discussion about the special position on the committee. This position was originally intended to ensure that there was a NLA representative on the committee and is therefore not resently required. However, it was suggested that Rebecca Wong could fill this position. The meeting accepted this proposal and Rebecca agreed to take up the special committee member position.

ITEM 5a. Update from ANU

Friederike Schimmelpfennig reported a tight budget and a stable staffing situation. The ANU School of Culture, History & Language has suffered major cuts that are impacting on Asian studies. This will require a shift of focus by the library.

ITEM 5b. Update from NLA

Di Pin Ouyang reported that collection development for Korean has shifted from print to electronic resources (in line with an overall NLA shift to electronic). Only South Korean e-books and e-journals are now being purchased but North Korean print materials will continue to be collected. Most items published in North Korea are being acquired. Testing of Korean e-books underway. The Korean e-book supplier is Panmun.

In-house cataloguing at NLA continues. 8000 items are catalogued per year and there is also a lot of retrospective cataloguing. The Asian Collection continues to receive many reference enquiries and requests for 'copies direct'. The reading room attendance has increased.

Di requested more communication and networking re databases and e-resources to avoid excessive duplication.

ITEM 5c. Update from Monash

Aline Scott-Maxwell reported that Monash continues to have a good budget for purchase of Asian print and electronic resources. Staffing is stable following the appointment of Xiaoju Liu as Chinese studies librarian (shared with University of Melbourne). She announced that that she will be retiring at the end of the year.

ITEM 5d. Update from University of Melbourne

Xiaoju Liu reported work on a major weeding project and re-classification of remaining books from Harvard-Yenching to LC. Classification conversion has been outsourced to CAVAL.

No news was reported from other libraries, except for UNSW's acquisition of the Shanghai Library database. It was noted that Adelaide University has a large number of Asian electronic resources.

ITEM 6. Asian Libraries in Melbourne – update and discussion of subscription database resource

Jung-Sim has added a link for the resource to the ALRA website under the new Resources tab. An action plan for updating the spreadsheet and including additional content relating to ILL etc was discussed. Friede offered to coordinate the update process. It was decided to set up a closed mailing list for communication about databases and other professional matters. A google group was suggested, possibly with the name ALRA Pro. Amy will set this up and invite people.

ITEM 7. Any Other Business

There was no other business. The meeting closed at 3.55pm.