

**REPORT ON THE ASIA PACIFIC BUSINESS SCHOOL LIBRARIANS' GROUP (APBSLG) INAUGURAL MEETING HELD ON 25-28 SEPTEMBER 2002 IN INSEAD – ASIA CAMPUS, SINGAPORE.**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:**

1	BAUMGARTNER Xavier	Saint Gallen University	Head of Library
2	DE ALWIS Gina	Singapore Institute of Management	Manager/Librarian
3	FLEGG Chris	Melbourne Business School	McLennan Library Librarian & Officer in Charge
4	FOO Kok Pheow	Nanyang Technological University	University Librarian
5	FOO Yan Chuin	National University of Singapore	Senior Manager
6	KENNAN Mary-Anne	Australian Graduate School of Management	Frank Lowy Librarian
7	KOH Bee Chin	Singapore Management University	Librarian
8	LI Lai Fong	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Reference Librarian
9	MELOT Agnes	HEC Group	Head of Library
10	NG Meliza	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Head, Public Services Division
11	OUDOMLITH Houmphanh	Macquarie University	Academic Outreach Librarian
12	THOMSON-ROOS Eva	Stockholm School of Economics	Library Director
13	PAJONA Pascale	INSEAD	Head of INSEAD Libraries
14	Pang Caroline	INSEAD	Library Manager, INSEAD
15	PERRIN Cecile	INSEAD	Library Manager, INSEAD

The APBSLG Inaugural Meeting consisted of library visits, seminars, presentations, vendor exhibitions, informal sharing sessions and a business meeting.

## **LIBRARY VISITS**

Visits to five Singaporean Libraries were arranged. Below a description of the libraries visited and their distinguishing features:

### 1) Ngee Ann Polytechnic Library

The first floor of the library has been conceptualized as a “lifestyle library”. The resources are non-academic and the atmosphere is very casual. Students are able to access general reading, multimedia and audio-visual materials. The aim was to draw the students into the library and inculcate into them the habit of visiting library for information. More information about the library can be found on their website: <http://www.np.edu.sg/library/>

## 2) Library@Orchard

This is a National Library Board (NLB) branch library. It is situated in a huge shopping centre in the main shopping district of Singapore, called Orchard Road. The collection is aimed at the 18 to 35 age group because according to a survey done by NLB, this is the target group that visited libraries the least. To reach out to this group, [Library@Orchard](#) has the look and feel of a modern bookshop and also a café and performance area where activities are conducted. This library like all NLB libraries uses the Electronic Library and Information Management System (ELIMS), a RFID system.

## 3) Hon Sui Sen Memorial Library, CJ Koh Law Library National University of Singapore(NUS)

The Hon Sui Sen Memorial Library is the de-facto business library in NUS. The Library collects and maintains a rich collection of management, business and finance books, journals, audiovisual materials and digital resources. Comprehensive information about the library can be found at their website: <http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/hlb/aboutus.html>

### The CJ Koh Law Library

The library currently houses a unique title collection of over 54,514 books and periodicals, and 63 electronic resources titles. Their collection development policy emphasizes the acquisition of the complete primary resources of Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and England. Comprehensive information about the library can be found at their website: <http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/llb/index.html>

## 4) Woodlands Regional Library

This is a NLB branch library. The largest branch library currently. A regional library has an extensive collection offers a full range of services and resources to cater to people in the township and those who have specialised information needs. Such a library offers a wider range of reference materials (in both print and non-print formats), in addition to the general collection. More information about this library can be found on their website: [http://www.nlb.gov.sg/fr\\_ourLib\\_branches.html](http://www.nlb.gov.sg/fr_ourLib_branches.html)

## 5) LEE WEE NAM LIBRARY, MEDIA RESOURCE LIBRARY National Technological University (NTU)

An introduction of the iGEMS (i-Gateway to Educational and Media Services) Portal was given as well as a library tour. The iGEMS Portal has its beginnings as a library website but eventually grew to become the official website of NTU. It allows each user to customize the login screen and personalize features. For more information, please access the website: <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/library/services/igems.htm>

NTU has 3 component libraries, namely, Lee Wee Nam Library, Library 2 and Media Resource Library. The Lee Wee Name Library has an impressive number of computer workstations. The Media Resource Library has enabled viewing of audio-visual and multimedia materials through their library OPAC. More information can be found on their website: <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/library/m-media.htm>

## **SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Each participant was allocated time to introduce their libraries and institutions. Agnes Melot, HEC Group, Library Director did a presentation on the European Business Schools Librarians' Group (EBSLG). This is the European counterpart of APBSLG and a possible model for the organization of APBSLG.

The first series of the seminar addresses the issue of remote access to e-resources. INSEAD presented its experience on sharing resources through difficulties presented by geographical location, time zone difference and budget restrictions. Macquarie University presented its strategic directions and the use of technology to achieve these goals. Australian Graduate School of Management presented their solution through the use of a combination of three applications, namely, the Single Sign On, EZ Proxy and Unicorn.

The theme for the second series of seminar is the Virtual Reference Desk. The use of real-time software that allows co-browsing was demonstrated. The two software presented were from Library Systems and Services and VRD.

### SHOP FOR IDEAS

This is an informal session for all participants to share their ideas and projects.

The items presented were:

1. Technical solutions for compiling a unique database of e-Journals available in .pdf format / Agnès Melot, HEC Goup
2. Budgeting for print serials
3. Resources sharing for management videos / Chris Flegg, MBS
4. RFID / Foo Yan Chuin, NUS
5. Full-text working papers
6. Users survey / Eva Thomson-Roos, SSE
7. Statistics sharing & benchmarking / Mary Anne Kennan, AGSM
8. ETOC (Electronic Tables Of Contents) / Caroline Pang, INSEAD – Asia Campus
9. Reciprocal borrowing
10. Regional framework for virtual reference
11. 24/7 IT help / Houphanh Oudomlith, Macquarie University
12. EDIS – Electronic Dissertations / Xavier Baumgartner, St Gallen University

### EXHIBITION

The below listed vendors exhibited their products during this meeting:

EBSCO Publishing

Proquest Information and Learning

ISI Emerging Markets

World Markets Research Centre

Thomson Learning

Thomson Financial

Factiva

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

## **BUSINESS MEETING REPORT**

### Members Present:

DE ALWIS Gina	Singapore Institute of Management
FLEGG Chris	Melbourne Business School
FOO Yan Chuin	National University of Singapore
KENNAN Mary-Anne	Australian Graduate School of Management
KOH Bee Chin	Singapore Management University
OUDOMLITH Houmphanh	Macquarie University
PAJONA Pascale	INSEAD
Pang Caroline	INSEAD
PERRIN Cecile	INSEAD

### Members Absent With Apologies:

4 FOO Kok Pheow	Nanyang Technological University
8 LI Lai Fong	Chinese University of Hong Kong
10 NG Meliza	Chinese University of Hong Kong

1) The participants shared their views about the overall organizational matters and content of the meeting:

#### The positive comments were:

- Everyone was participative
- Happy with Library tours
- Valuable and useful meeting
- Shop for Ideas concept is very good
- Good balance between conference and visits
- Exhibition was satisfactory
- Sharing experiences with peers
- Useful presentations
- Strong social context throughout the meeting

#### The negative comments were:

- Schedule being too tight
- Leader of presentation not firm enough letting some participants present longer than others.

2) The group discussed about possible projects to undertake:

- Sharing statistics
- Policies on collection management (paper vs electronic)
- Product evaluation

- Staff exchange programmes
- Alert each other of special projects
- Experience sharing
- Setting up of a website and list serve

From the above list, it was decided that sharing of statistics would be a good first project for the group to undertake. The other project of common interest to the group is the Staff Exchange Programme. It has been decided that institutions will arrange staff exchange programmes with each other autonomously. A website and a list serve will also be created.

3) The criteria for membership was also discussed and it was decided to be:

- i. Top business schools
- ii. Conduct postgraduate, Masters Programme
- iii. Library / information resource centre
- iv. Staffed by qualified librarian
- v. Active participation
- vi. Membership offered to the institution rather than to the person.

The aim is to increase membership but difficulties like financial and time commitment may prevent some potential members from joining.

4) Roles were assigned to the following institutions:

INSEAD :	Co-ordinator of APBSLG
AGSM :	Project Co-ordinator for benchmarking project
MBS:	Draft charter

As Co-ordinator of APBSLG, INSEAD will complete the following tasks:

- A list of potential candidates that has been approached by Cecile
- Send the web pages of the inaugural meeting to INSEAD Fontainebleau
- Ask ABLD and EBSLG if APBSLG can participate in their list serve

5) It was agreed by everyone that an annual meeting should be held for the group and it has been decided that it will be held in October 2003 in Sydney, Australia hosted by AGSM.

6) It was unanimous that the meeting was a success.