



ASLP Newsletter

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ASLP Outreach program and Seminar in MMESLC


Ma. Luisa Madlangbayan





In line with the celebration of the national book week, the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines (ASLP) conducted worthwhile activities last November 22-23, 2012 held at the Mariano Marcos Memorial Elementary School Learning Center in Batac City, Ilocos Norte in partnership with the Annak Ti Batac, Inc. The first part of the activity is an outreach program for the MMESLC. Books from various sponsors like Children International, Adarna House, Goethe-Institut Philippinen, Lampara Books, Bookmark, Ayala Foundation,



Inside this Issue . . .


ASLP Outreach program and Seminar in MMESLC 1 


ASLP Adviser, A Resource Speaker at the Australian Law Librarians Association (ALLA) National Conference, Brisbane Australia on September 12-14, 2012 6 

IFLA WLIC 2012 in Helsinki, Finland: a first-time experience 7 

The Journey of a Silent Warrior Librarian 10 

Libraries Effects on Society 11 

Fusion 2013: Negotiation Power Skills & Library Services Management, Decade's Breakthrough 12 

ASLP Member Ranks 6th in Librarian Licensure Examination 2012 12 

Dionatext Kontra Depresyon writing contest 13 

Newly Elected 2013 ASLP Board .. 14 

2012 ASLP Members 15 

2012 ASLP Executive Board 18 



Cont. on page 2

IFLA WLIC 2012 in Helsinki, Finland: a first-time experience

Martin Julius Perez



*IFLA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS SESSION (AWARDING OF IFLA LIS STUDENT PAPER AWARD 2012)
– WITH DR. CLARA CHU, MARTIN JULIUS PEREZ, IFLA PRESIDENT INGRID PARENT, DR. PETRA HAUKE, MARIEL TEMPLANZA AND BARBARA LISON*

Considering that Helsinki, Finland is more than 5,500 miles away from the Philippines, two young students / new professionals from the Philippines dreamed of attending the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2012, and made it a reality.

This rare experience came alive when Mariel Templanza and I decided to submit an abstract for the IFLA Asia and Oceania's call for papers for their open session in IFLA WLIC 2012. We submitted the abstract of our paper entitled: "Local Studies Centers: transforming history, culture and heritage in the Philippines" last January 18, 2012 to Dr. Dan Dorner and Dr. Chihfeng Lin of the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO). The paper was accepted for the IFLA WLIC Asia and Oceania Open Session, and we received the acceptance email on February 15, 2012.

Since our paper is a product of our student researches in the UP School of Library and Information Studies, on May 2, 2012, we decided to send our application for the search for the IFLA LIS Student Paper Award 2012 to Dr. Petra Hauke of IFLA Education and Training Standing Committee (SET). If ever chosen, through this award we have very high hopes that we can make it to Helsinki for the paper presentation. The grant comes along with some cash prize. It was on May 15, 2012 when we received the great news that we are the recipient of the award!

The longest part of the journey to IFLA WLIC 2012 was the preparation and waiting stage. At that point, the assurance of attending the IFLA WLIC 2012 was not yet at hand. We applied for our visa, secured the important documents, sought recommendation letters, certifications and financial grants, secured permission from our school and respective employers, sent emails here and there, revised the paper, prepared and polished the presentation, prepared for our stay in Finland, , etc. Finally we have prepared everything for this anticipated international congress!



FILIPINO DELEGATES TO THE IFLA WLIC 2012 (DURING THE CULTURAL NIGHT) – WITH MARIEL TEMPLANZA, FIDES LAWTON, ATTY. ANTONIO SANTOS AND MARTIN JULIUS PEREZ

It was on August 8, 2012, the time when “habagat” devastated the greater Metro, when we left Manila, Philippines for Helsinki, Finland. We almost got trapped in the floods going to the airport, but through the help of our respective families, we made it there! With all the excitement the positivism, we safely arrived in Finland after long hours of travel. That was our first time to travel to Europe! We first attended the first-ever IFLAcamp sponsored by IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG) in Hämeenlinna, Finland on August 9-10, 2012 and then IFLA WLIC 2012 from August 11 to 17, 2012 in Helsinki, Finland. This was our very first ever IFLA WLIC attendance and at the same time, our first-ever paper presentation for IFLA. Everything that we experienced in the IFLA WLIC 2012 – from the “Registration” up to the “Library Visits,” was unforgettable. We also met well-known and well-respected individuals from all over the world, including the 4 Filipinos (Atty. Antonio Santos, Director of the National Library of the Philippines, & Mrs. Fides Lawton who also attended IFLA WLIC 2012, and Mr. Darrel Marco & Ms. Grace Bansig who attended an IFLA WLIC satellite conference). We attended various standing committee meetings (where IFLA committees are at work), plenary sessions, product / services exhibitions, caucus and many sessions. I could say that this experience opened a lot of doors and windows of opportunities and connections for us. I think it contributed a lot in my perspective and perception of the Library and Information Science (LIS) field, especially in the international level.

I will always treasure the very moment when received our IFLA LIS Student Paper Award during the IFLA Highlights and News Session with the IFLA President, and the very moment when we stepped on the stage and delivered our paper / research before the international audience of the IFLA Asia and Oceania Open Session together with the other 4 paper presenters from Asia (who are being addressed as “doctors,” meaning

they are PhD holders). The theme of this open session was “Innovative Libraries: transforming our communities,” in line with the IFLA WLIC 2012 theme, which was “Libraries Now! : Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering.” Truly the libraries being showed and presented to us exhibit these characteristics. This first-hand experience of IFLA WLIC will forever be treasured.

This won't be possible without the assistance to us, in whatever way, of key persons. Let us thank Dr. Dan Dorner, Ms. Tan Keat Fong, Ms. Petrina Ang and the rest of the members of IFLA RSCAO –for this very rare opportunity to be part of the IFLA Asia and Oceania open session, and for the financial support extended to me, Dr. Petra Hauke and Dr. Clara Chu of IFLA SET, and Mr. Andreas Mittrowann of ekz.bibliotheksservice GmbH – for sponsoring the IFLA LIS Student Paper Award 2012, and for the untiring online support to us, Mr. Sebastian Wilke of IFLA NPSIG – for introducing us to the new professionals group, Ms. Raisa Alameri and her husband Mr. Sakari Sajama – for opening not only their Finnish house for us but their home and for treating us like their children, and also those Filipinos who supported us all the way including the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts – National Committee for Libraries and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS), School of Library and Information Studies, University of the Philippines-Diliman, Far Eastern University-Manila, Manila Observatory and all of those we failed to mention here, our deepest gratitude!



IFLA ASIA AND OCEANIA OPEN SESSION – WITH WINSTON ROBERTS, DR. SUSMITA CHAKRABORTY, MARIEL TEMPLANZA, MARTIN JULIUS PEREZ, DR. M.D.NASIRUDDIN, DR. DAN DORNER AND DR. TAKASHI NAGATSUKA

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