Annual Report 2016

This report highlights LLA’s 2016 fiscal year, which ended November 01, 2016.
Presented: Thursday 08 December 2016
At: Faculty of Information, Branch 1, Lebanese University, Beirut

Vision
To be the home of the library and information professionals

Mission
To provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of the library and information sector

Goals
- To promote the profession of the library and information sector;
- To support continuing professional development;
- To set standards and ensure their implementation among professionals;
- To represent the rights and interests of professionals of the library and information sector.
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Word from the President

I am greatly honored to be standing here today as your out-going President. I thank you for the trust you have placed in me and I hope I have delivered on your expectations.

The Boards I have worked with in my two terms of office are greatly appreciated for all their efforts, their patience, and their dedication. I also recognize that their contributions supported and promoted the Association. I salute you all.

The Annual Report is a formal record of the activities and achievements of the Association. The 2016 report also includes a detailed review of the LLA 2016 Financial Report.

As members, we must ensure that we maintain and nurture the growth and expansion of our profession and our Association. And we should harness it for the future. It is my greatest wish to welcome additional members in our group, and see the return of former members. Propelling LLA and libraries into the future is an ambitious project. It will require dedication, creativity, collaboration among us, as members, and the emergence new faces to lead.

In moving forward, I am grateful for the support I received from members, individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies and organizations and all who also believe in the transformative power of libraries.

Randa Al Chidiac
President
2016 LLA Conference

- Theme: Thinking Together: Innovate, Share, Preserve and Access;
- Hosted by the Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon;
- Date: May 18-20, 2016;
- Under the Patronage of His Excellency Mr. Raymond Araygi, Minister of Culture;
- LAU administration represented by Dr. Wassim Shahin, Assistant Provost for Special External Projects of the Lebanese American University.

Pre-Conference Workshop

- Date: May 17, 2016;
- Trainer: Dr. Lokman Meho, University Librarian, American University of Beirut;
- Title: Use of bibliometric tools and techniques in collection development and management;
- Attendees: 16;
- Objective: Train professional librarians on the effective use of bibliometric tools and techniques in making non-Arabic library material acquisitions, selection, deselection, and weeding decisions.
Speakers: Local, Regional and International

Guest Speakers:

- Barbara Ford, University of California
- Ellen Tise, Stellenbosch University
- Imad Bachir, Lebanese University
- Peter Bae, Princeton University
- Jeroen de Boer, Bibliotheekservice Fryslân
- Cendrella Habre, Lebanese American University
- Nicole Johnston, University College London Qatar
- Ghassan Mourad, Lebanese University
- Anchalee Panigabutra-Roberts, American University in Cairo
- Jarmo Saarti, University of Eastern Finland
- Najeeb Al-Shorbaji, Knowledge World for Digital Content
- Peter Stone, Newcastle University
- Molly Tamarkin, King Abdullah University of Science & Technology
- Paul Poulain, Biblibre

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Barbara Ford
Poster Session

The 2016 LLA conference added a new item to its program and sent out a call for poster proposals. This was an invitation to all graduate students (M.A., M.SC. M.Phil., Ph.D.) in the Arab region to submit a poster presenting recently submitted or current thesis or dissertation. The call received only two submissions by

1. Ms. Iman Khamis: Improving the patient record system (PRS) in hospitals at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)


Conference Sponsors

- Al-Manhal
- Accucoms
- EBSCO
- Elsevier (Medical and SD/Scopus)
- Emerald Publishing Group
- Euromonitor International
- EVERTEAM
- Gale Cengage Learning
- Levant Distributors
- Naseej
- Neelwafurat.com
- OCLC
- Panworld Education
- Proquest
- Taylor and Francis
- TechKnowledge
- Thomson Reuters
- Wiley
- Wolters Kluwer
Facts and Figures

- 200 attendees
- 15 nationalities
- 18 Sponsors
- 14 Guest Speakers
- 21 presentations
- 2 MA posters
- Twitter: #LLA_Conference
Special Interest Groups

Specialized Libraries:

- Established on 9 December 2015;
- Information professionals who work in special libraries serving business, research, government, universities, newspapers, museums, and institutions that use or produce specialized information;
- A Coordinating Committee headed by Ibrahim Issa was organized with members: Amal Tarhini, Mohammad Zuheir Bakleh, Katia Ibrahim, Hiba Kerkeh, Raja Wehbe, Hajar Zein and Mona Kanaan;

Attended by representatives of:
1. Al Mayadeen
2. Al Rabita El Thakafia
3. An Nahar Newspaper
4. An Noor Radio Station
5. Arab League Office, Beirut
6. As Safir Newspaper
7. Banque Du Liban
8. Center for Arab Unity Studies
9. Central Administration of Statistics
10. Common Space Initiative
11. ESCWA
12. Hayat newspaper
13. Institut Des Finances institut Basil Fuleihan
14. Institut Français du Proche-Orient
15. Institute for Palastine Studies
16. Lebanese National Library
17. Lebanese Parliament Library
18. Lebanese Standards Institution
19. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
20. Orient Institute Beirut
21. MACAM
22. Shamaa
Cataloging Standards:

- Established on 5 October 2016;
- Lebanese libraries are creating their own Arabic language subject headings based upon standard subject headings in other languages;
- To act as a forum to discuss common problems and share solutions;
- To propose and develop national policies, guidelines, and standards for bibliographic information to address the needs of the Lebanese community;
- Institutions represented: National Library, American University of Beirut, Lebanese American University, University of Balamand, Beirut Arab University, St. Joseph University, Islamic University, Notre Dame University-Louaize & Holy Spirit University of Kaslik;
- Coordinator: Fadia Khairallah.

Future groups:

- School Libraries
- Medical and Health Information
IFLA International Advocacy Programme

- Randa Al Chidiac was nominated during IFLA Conference 2016 to be a core trainer for IFLA’s International Advocacy Programme (IAP) in the Asia-Oceania region;
- This program is to build awareness and increase capacity of libraries and library associations to meet emerging challenges and for advocacy activities, centered on the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- She attended the Train the Trainer session: 12-14 October 2016, IFLA Home Office, The Hague, Amsterdam;
- She was a trainer at the Asia-Oceania Section Training Session: 31 October – 1 November, 2016, Singapore.

![Image 1](image1.jpg)

![Image 2](image2.jpg)

![Image 3](image3.jpg)

![Image 4](image4.jpg)
Consultations

LLA was able to play a consultative role this year to guide members of the community in various projects related to libraries and their needs:

- Center for Educational Research and Development (CRDP) wanted to network its current library automation systems in nine locations covering the Lebanese territory. However, the problem they faced was that different companies provided different systems. Another aspect that they had to consider was finance and budget. Our advice to them was to adopt an open source system such as Koha ILS. Contacting them after the project was finalized, they expressed their gratitude for the guidance and satisfaction with current setup;

- Mr. Ali A. Osseiran, MP, approached us with the plan to establish a public library in the southern periphery of Nabatieh city. On meeting with him, we discussed the plans, funding, and his projections. We are now working on proposing this project to NGOs and other funding bodies.

Projects

LLA is in the process of working on several projects to make libraries in Lebanon visible in the Arab world and internationally:

- Library Map of the World: IFLA is launching a project to collect a small set of basic library performance indicators and track them globally;

- Arab Library Directory: Arab League is developing a comprehensive e-directory of libraries (academic, public, school and specialized) in the Arab world;

- Lebanese Library Directory: LLA should update the Lebanese Director of libraries which was last published in 1995.
National and International Participations

During the past year, the Association has had several invitations to appear at events, on TV and on the radio:

- **18-21 February, 2016**: LLA President attended IFLA/Managing Library Associations Midterm Meeting in Panama;
- **18 February, 2016**: Presentation about the Lebanese Library Association by Randa Al Chidiac in front of colleagues of the Latin American libraries in Panama;
- **02 April, 2016**: LBC Sat recording of a one-hour session by Randa Al Chidiac to produce 1-minute bloggers about use of the internet: search, child safety, security, emails...; bloggers;
- **13 April 2016**: LLA President was invited by the schools of Al-Mabarrat Association as Patron on the Opening of the Book Exhibition;
- **23 April, 2016**: LLA President was invited as a speaker to the secondary class students of the Shheem Public Schools entitled *The Pleasures of Reading*;
- **07 May, 2016**: LLA President was a guest on a radio broadcast with Al Nour Station to discuss the current situation of public libraries in Lebanon; the panel included Mr. Imad Hachem representing the Ministry of Culture;
- **02 July, 2016**: LLA President was interviewed by Mr. Odaie Moussawi of Al Nour Station concerning details of the LLA 2016 conference;
- **27 August, 2016**: Randa Al Chidiac wrote an article in Al-Akhbar Newspaper creating awareness about the library profession entitled: Working in the Profession?
18 November, 2016: Houeida K. Charara, LLA member, was a guest of the radio program Kalam Tarbawi on Sawt Lubnan discussing the role of academic libraries in the subject of information literacy.

**Upcoming Activities and Events**

A 2017 Events and Activities Calendar will be drafted and presented by the incoming LLA Board. However, there are two activities that are planned for the coming year:

- UN Sustainable Development 2030 Agenda and the role of libraries
  
  Presented by: Randa Al Chidiac

- Legalities and Ethics: Copyright, Limitations and Exceptions
  
  Presented by: Dr. Elias Ibrahim

**LLA Board 2017-2018**

The incoming LLA Board was elected by acclamation:

- Dalal Rahme
- Domingua Abboud
- Fadia Khairallah
- Fawz Abdallah
- Ibrahim Issa
- Jamal Tabbara
- Kamal Jaroudy
- Nabil Badran
- Randa Al Chidiac
- Rudaynah Shoujah

The current Board would like to bid a fond farewell to a serving board member and colleague: Zeina Kaissi Douba. She served in her capacity as Coordinator for the School Libraries Group and organized several motivating activities for librarians and teachers. Thank you, Zeina.
Closing

“Only by binding together as a single force will we remain strong and unconquerable.” — Chris Bradford

The coming year I hope will be the year when we bridge the gap between librarians across the country. 2017 will hopefully be the year when we increase in number, outreach to more public and school libraries.

We would like to encourage all our members to get involved and volunteer to serve on our Committees and activities. This involvement allows for many rewarding experiences, the acquisition of leadership skills, as well as networking opportunities.

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much” — Helen Keller

LLA will hopefully have a great deal to offer its members, but nothing is as valuable as the engagement of our members themselves.

Our greatest appreciation to all.
Till 2017.