

LIAJA

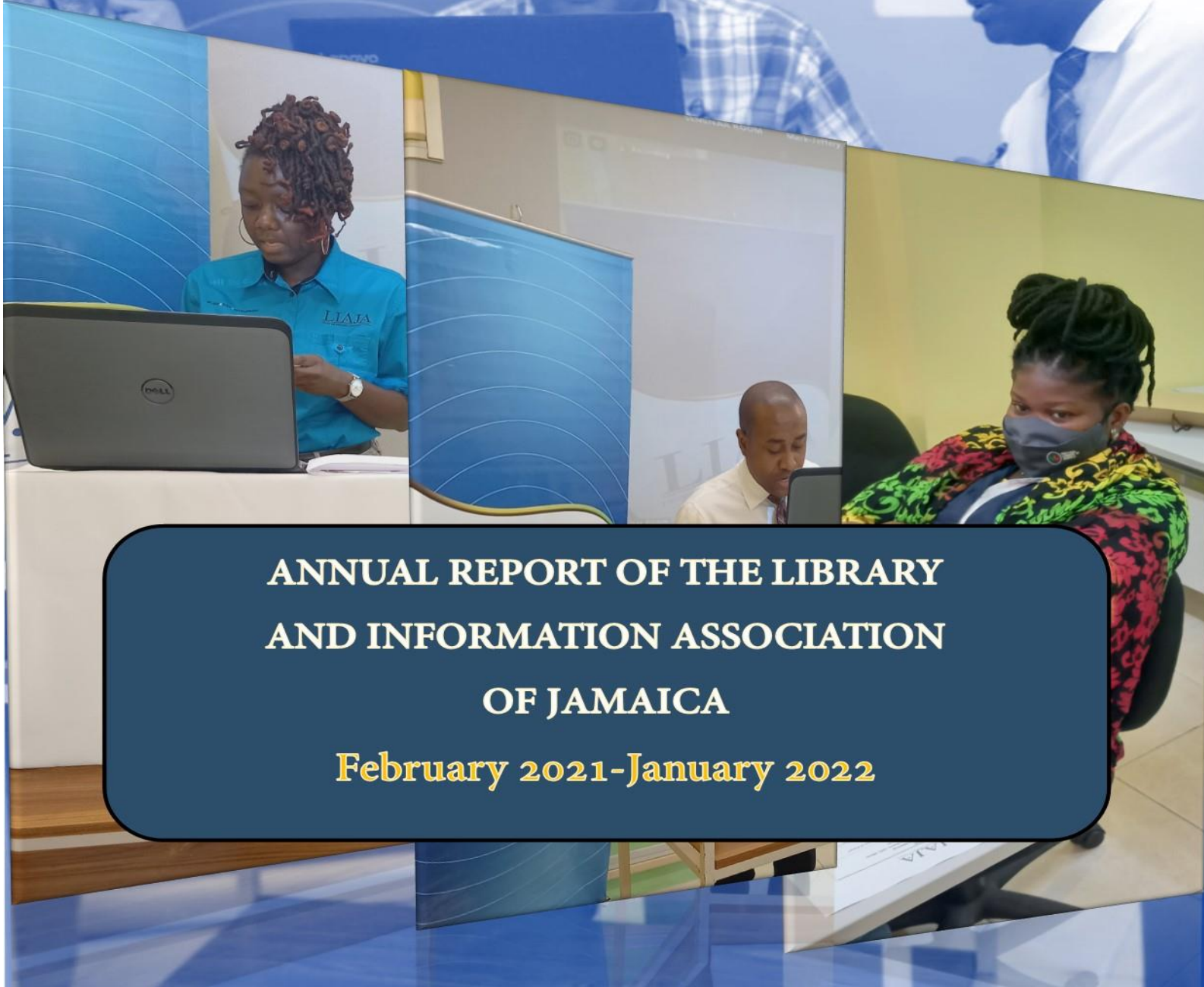
Library and Information Association of Jamaica

Annual Report 2021-2022

LI AJA

Library and Information Association of Jamaica

Association of Information and Library



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA

February 2021-January 2022

Library and Information Association of Jamaica
12 East Street Kingston
P.O. Box 125, Kingston 5
www.liaja.org.jm

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Mission of the Association

To provide leadership in the development and promotion of resources in the library, archives, records management and information sectors for the accomplishment of institutional mandates

Purpose of the Association

- ✦ To unite all persons engaged or interested in library and information work in Jamaica and to provide opportunities for their meeting to discuss matters related to library and information work.
- ✦ To encourage co-operation between institutions engaged in library and information work throughout Jamaica and to promote their active development and maintenance.
- ✦ To promote a high standard of education and training for staff in such institutions.
- ✦ To engage in activities that will improve the status of staff in these institutions.
- ✦ To promote a wider knowledge of library and information work and to form an educated public opinion on such work.

Acknowledgement

I express my deepest gratitude and heartfelt acknowledgement for the continued support of the members of the Association over the February 2021- January 2022 administrative year. It has been an honor and privilege to serve you as president. I cannot fully convey my feelings and my appreciation for all those who have helped move this organization forward during this pivotal time. Last year, I called on all members of the Association to “lift where they stand and stand where they lifted” and I am happy to declare that your strength and resilience in doing so cultivated within the Association fruits of selflessness and camaraderie.

Members, thank you for your personal commitment to making a difference in these unprecedented and challenging times. Your support and work made it possible to delve into new ways of managing the affairs of the Association. Certainly, your involvement and participation in the various activities throughout the year made it a most memorable experience. I acknowledge all your efforts; none was too small or insignificant and non was too large in helping this administration to provide leadership in the development and promotion of libraries, archives, records centres and all information sectors for the accomplishment of the Association’s mandate.

Once again, I thank you for selecting me for this 2021 executive term and for all your continued guidance and support throughout the year.

Thank you

Sincerely,



.....

Mark-Jeffery Deans
President

Introduction

The administrative year 2021 saw the Association embarking on a number of initiatives geared towards accomplishing its stated objectives.

The Executive; sought to accomplish the following:

1. Strategically seeking to expand the knowledge and advocacy skills of members of the Association.
2. Maintaining already existing relationships with international library organizations
3. Actively engaging our members; seeking to provide new and innovative ways for training and development of staff in library institutions.
4. Moving forward in exploring new and profitable avenues for the continued financial sustainability of the Association.

The Executive was privy to training on advocacy skills by the American Library Association, which was an effort by the Advocacy and Training Working Party to enable members of the Executive to use tools and strategies for conducting advocacy on behalf of their libraries and information centres. In hindsight, the initiative sought to upskill members of the Executive and enable them to upskill others.

For the year, we maintained our membership with our international partners, such as the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL). We had representation from members of the Association at the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) Conference hosted by the University of North Texas. The year also saw the Association becoming a member of the UNESCO MIL Alliance, formerly known as Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL).

We also had a few workshops and information sessions that were geared towards actively engaging our members; providing them with support and new and innovative ways for development within the profession. The major accomplishments for the period will therefore be highlighted in the next sections.

Highlights from 2021

Annual General Meeting

On February 12, 2021, approximately 59 members attended the Annual General Meeting. The AGM was facilitated via Zoom; however accommodation was made for 15 persons at the Department of Library and Information Studies. Members were briefed on the activities of the past year and also the upcoming plans for the new administrative year.

The 2021 Executive members are listed below:

Officers

President:	Mr. Mark-Jeffery Deans
Immediate Past President:	Mr. Nicholas Graham
1 st Vice President/Treasurer:	Mrs. Kerry Rodney Wellington
2 nd Vice President	Mrs. Marsha Stewart-Crawford
Honorary Secretary:	Ms. Simone Harrison

Section Chairs

Academic Libraries:	Mr. Joseph Kerr
Records and Archives. Management:	Ms. Tracey-Ann Ricketts
Retired Members SIG:	Ms. Leona Bobb-Semple
Schools:	Dr. Ruth Baker-Gardner
Special Libraries:	Ms. Leleka Johnson

Institutional Representative

DLIS/ Education Institution Rep:	Mr. Mark-Jeffery Deans
JLS Representative:	Ms. Keisha Walton
NLJ Representative	Ms. Chantelle Richardson

Working Parties

Education and Training:	Ms. Nicola Palmer
Fundraising:	Ms. Stacey Morant
Information Technology:	Ms. Marsha Gaye-Robinson
Membership & Conditions of Services:	Mrs. Nicoleen Saunders-Grant
Public Relations:	Mrs. Monique Forgie-Scott
Research and Publication:	Dr. Sasekea Harris

Sub-Committees

Advocacy	Mrs. Adele Meritt-Bernard
Awards:	Ms. Juliet fuller
Functions:	Ms. Chantal Cousins

Executive Meetings

Meetings of the Association were held on the second Friday of each month. All meetings of the Association for the year were held online via Zoom.

Regular Meetings

Two Regular Meetings were held for the year via Zoom. One on June 11, 2021 and the other on November 26, 2021. The first meeting in June was preceded by a special “power talk” session on mentorship and leadership, by Dr. Nsombi Jaja, Certified Management Consultant, and Inspirational Speaker. The second Regular Meeting was preceded by a Special information session on “Coping with the effects of COVID-19” by Mr. Gerard Gayle, Guidance Councillor Montego Bay Community College. The attendance for both regular meetings was commendable.

Board Meetings

On January 27, 2021, a Board of Director Meetings was held via Zoom. The meeting was chaired by Mr. David Drysdale, Chair and gave insight and made recommendations concerning:

- ✚ Building and Property Development Sub-Committee Chair
- ✚ Paying LIAJA Property tax
- ✚ Updating records at the Company's office

Library and Information Week 2021



Library and Information Week 2021 was successful, as various organizations undertook initiatives to celebrate and showcase their achievements. The week was celebrated October 31-November 6, 2021, under the theme **“GLAM/R: Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access”** The following sub themes were highlighted:

LIAJA’s support for IFLA’s promotion of GLAM/R; digitizing their collections, and seeking resources for developing or implementing a long-term strategy in preserving their digital collections.

LIAJA’s support for GLAM/R institutions embracing the responsibility to provide citizens with useful information, in order for them to make proper decisions concerning all areas of life; thus, contributing to improved outcomes across the SDGs and contributing to “promoting peace, ethics, transparency and good governance; Public access to information; Intellectual Property Rights”.

LIAJA’s support for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) initiative “Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good”

The table below gives an overview of the activities that were done for library and information week:

Library & Information Week Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2021 Calendar of Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
LIW 2021 Church Service Barbican Baptist Church 106 Barbican Road Kingston 8 8AM. via BBC YouTube Channel	National Library of Jamaica (NLJ) Journey to Enlightenment: Libraries in Jamaica Online Exhibition Launch on NLJ's Website All Day	JLS: Clarendon Parish Library Network Virtual Debate Competition Theme "The Role of Libraries in the Digital Age"	Sam Sharpe Teachers' College library Webinar/Panel Discussion Theme: GLAM/R-Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access 3PM	LIAJA: Gleaner Supplement Publication	HEART/NSTA Trust Old Harbour HEART VTC Library Sensitisation Sessions	#LIW2021
JLS: All Parish Library Networks Displays (Virtual/Physical) Story hour Sessions, tutorials, and other events Oct 31-Nov 6	Montego Bay Community College (MBCC) Database Training/ Digital Literacy Workshops <i>Rescheduled for the Week of October 25-29</i>	JLS: Trelawny Parish Library Network Virtual Presentation "The Importance of a Library" Noah's Ark Children's Home and Granville Place of Safety	Government Libraries and Information Network of Jamaica GLINJa Library and Information Week Virtual Workshop Theme: Jamaican Libraries: Our Goal, SDG and "We"	National Library of Jamaica (NLJ) Embracing Change Expanding Access: Digital preservation in JAMLIN Webinar 10:00AM - 12:30PM via ZOOM	JLS: All Parish Library Networks Displays (Virtual/Physical) Story hour Sessions, tutorials, and other events Oct 31- Nov 6	GLAMRus
GLAM/Rus	MEGJC/MHURECC Two virtual displays Sub-Theme: Advancing Service Delivery Through Technology Nov 1 & 3	GLAM/Rus	JLS: Westmoreland Parish Library Network Virtual Presentation "Shadow a Librarian for a Day"	JLS: Portland Parish Library Network Virtual Forum "Libraries Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access" 10:30AM via ZOOM	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">OUR Information Centre (OURIC)</p> <p>Radio interview with OURIC Coordinator, aired on IRIE FM and Nationwide Radio highlighting the new thrust of OURIC and the activities in observation of Library and Information Week Wed. Irie FM: 6:35am Thur. Nationwide: 8:45am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation/Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment, and Climate Change) -Documentation and Information Services Branch (MEGJC/MHURECC)</i></p> </div>	
#LIW2021	Sam Sharpe Teachers' College library Library and Information Week Quiz Nov. 1-4	#LIW2021	JLS: Trelawny Parish Library Network Virtual Presentation "The Importance of a Library" Noah's Ark Children's Home and Granville Place of Safety	OUR Information Centre (OURIC) Social media and website Publication: Theme: Get the Facts with OURIC "Re-imagine OURIC! The OUR Information Centre, Anytime...Anywhere Nov 1-6		
#GLAMRus	HEART/NSTA Trust Old Harbour HEART VTC Library Sensitisation Sessions Nov 1-5	#GLAMRus	#LIW2021	GLAM/Rus		



Mark-Jeffery Deans
President
Library and Information Association of Jamaica

"Destination 2030: Harnessing Information For National Development"

The Association thanks all those organizations/institutions which answered the call to contribute to the Gleaner Supplement on November 4th, 2021. Your participation was paramount to the success of the supplement. We invite and encourage all to join us in future publications.

2021 Gleaner Supplement Contributors

- ✚ The Department of Library and Information Studies, UWI
- ✚ Government Library & Information Network of Jamaica (GLIN-JA)
- ✚ Jamaica Library Service
- ✚ National Library of Jamaica
- ✚ Office of Utilities Regulation
- ✚ The University of Technology, Calvin McKain Library

Letters of Endorsement



Email: liajapresident@yahoo.com ; URL: <http://www.liaja.org.jm>
P.O. Box 125, Kingston 5

February 2, 2021

Dr. Paulette Stewart
The Department of Library and Information Studies
The University of the West Indies, Mona

Dear Dr. Stewart

Re: B.A. in Librarianship and Education Programme

The Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) formally endorses the Bachelor of Arts in Librarianship and Education (with the major in Literacy Studies) programme. We believe that the content of the programme satisfies the training demands of the ever evolving roles of teacher-librarians in Jamaica. Indeed, the role of librarians in the education sector increasingly requires that teaching responsibilities are a part of their day-to-day curricular activities. Therefore librarians need to know more about teaching theory and techniques in order to provide high-quality information literacy (IL) teaching to their students.

We are confident that the programme will provides adequate training for graduates who will be dually qualified to teach and manage a school library in the modern information environment. No doubt, this approach in pedagogy will satisfy the demands of current market trends and global expectations of teacher-librarians.

Additionally, we note that the programme includes an internship period for which students are assigned to a school library under the supervision of a trained librarian for 6 weeks. This is notably commendable, since applying theory to practice in a real setting allows student teacher-librarians, the opportunity to develop good interpersonal skills; working with professionals, whilst being exposed to the reality of the classroom setting.

LIAJA therefore looks forward to the approval and launch of the program and the unique opportunity it will provide for students.

Yours sincerely

Mark-Jeffery Deans
President
Library and Information Association of Jamaica



Email: liajapresident@yahoo.com ; URL: <http://www.liaja.org.jm>
P.O. Box 125, Kingston 5

October 5, 2021

Dr. Stanley H. Griffin, Phd
Department Coordinator, Graduate Studies
Department of Library & Information Studies

Dear Dr. Griffin

Re: PG Diplomas in Information Studies Programmes

The Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) holds as part of its mandate the promotion of a high standard of education and training for staff in its member organizations. We believe that in order to facilitate, excellence in service-delivery in these organizations we must develop our human capital. Such development is directly related to lifelong learning; and is therefore paramount to creating sustainable long-term and long-lasting leadership qualities, in the professional development of information professionals. Furthermore, the Association encourages all engagements in activities that will improve the status of staff in these Organizations.

We believe that the proposed suite of Postgraduate Diplomas (PG Dip) in Information Studies Programmes, ideally meets the ever evolving roles and needs of information professionals in Jamaica. Additionally, we are quite pleased to note that your “programme summary” highlights a wide cross-section of individuals who will benefit from the Department’s offering of the programmes.

LIAJA therefore endorses this initiative of the Department of Library and Information Studies and looks forward to its manifold benefits to library and information work throughout Jamaica and the development of the profession in general.

Yours sincerely

Mark-Jeffery Deans
President
Library and Information Association of Jamaica

Projects and Initiatives

LIAJA/UWI Main Library MOU: Digitization project

- ✚ I want to thank the Main Library, UWI Mona for their collaborative work in the completion of the first stage of the LIAJA/UWI Main Library MOU: Digitization project. Specifically I must commend Ms. Rosemarie Runcie and Mr. Dunstan Newman for their astute leadership in its completion. I have been sent the files of the fully digitized bulletins.
- ✚ The second stage of this project will involve the Main library, UWI Mona uploading a hyperlinked file with the cover page and contents pages of the bulletins on their library's website. Of course users will be provided with instructions to contact LIAJA for the full text of the bulletins.

LIAJA Standards and Guidelines for Academic Libraries

- ✚ Joint Initiative between LIAJA and COLINET: Providing guidance on the day-to-day operations of Academic Libraries.
- ✚ Should be available for distribution in 2022.

LIAJA Journal

- ✚ Should be published by the first half of 2022.

Librarian Series

- ✚ A Terms of Reference has been developed for the consultant. The terms of reference outlines the background of the series, scope of work to be done by the consultant and the Work to be done by NLJ, JAMLIN.

UNESCO MIL Alliance

- ✚ The Library and Information Association of Jamaica became a member of the UNESCO MIL Alliance, formerly known as Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL). The Association join other entities globally in promoting international cooperation to ensure that all citizens have access to media and information competencies.

LIAJA's Website

- ✚ Officially, the Association's website is "up and running." I know that Mrs. Robinson, Chair of the IT working party has worked assiduously to update content and keep the site relevant.

Report from Sections

Academic Libraries

Submitted by: Joseph Kerr, Chair, Academic Libraries Section

INTRODUCTION

In keeping with the Academic Sections' objectives of distributing timely and relevant information that will keep Academic Librarians informed of happenings within the field, we note that several institutions welcomed new Library Administrators and supporting staff, while some had staffing being redeployed to other areas within their respective institution.

This report covers activities for the period February 01, 2021, to January 25, 2022.

1. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

- a) Conducting Training Needs Analysis/Interest Assessment before embarking on initiatives'
- b) Liaise with Membership and Conditions of Service, and other Sections/WPs in the hosting of webinars.
- c) Library Week collaboration with Membership & Conditions of Service W.P.
- d) Periodically sharing with our personal and institutional members' current library trends, and issues and available training opportunities via email, social media, website etc.
- e) Liaise with IT and PR working parties to promote information and activities.

2. MATTERS COMPLETED

A) Identification and formation of working committee, and the formulation of the Academic Section's Strategic Plan was done and submitted to the Executive.

B) **The creation of a dedicated email address for the Section:**
liajaacademic@gmail.com

C) WEBINARS/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

Our membership participated in various webinars, conferences, and seminars throughout the reporting period, as outlined below:

April 13, 2021 - This webinar explored how the principles of trauma-informed care and Mental Health First Aid could equip Library staff with the knowledge and confidence to communicate with compassion.

April 15, 2021 - This webinar addressed COVID-19 vaccines and how they impact the reopening and ongoing operations plans for libraries, archives, and museums.

April 18, 2021 - This webinar focused on self-care strategies for library staff, to respond to the physical, behavioural, and emotional impacts of workplace stressors.

May 20, 2021 - *Is your library prepared for a cyber-attack?* Summary: Cyber-attacks on institutions of higher education are becoming more common, but many academic libraries have yet to prepare for a cyber-attack, the impact it has on operations, and the lasting repercussions on people and services.

MBCC RESEARCH WRITING WEBINARS AND RESEARCH WEEK (TARGETING ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS)

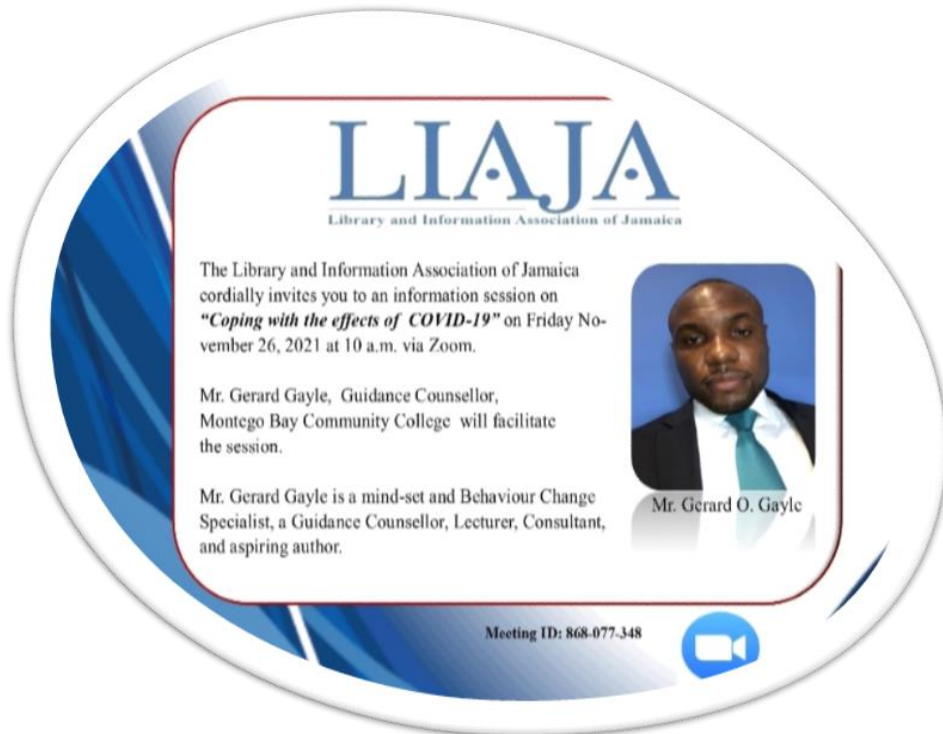
Webinars were implemented on June 1st, 10th and 22nd and the presenters were Dr. Sasekea Harris, Dr Sonja Robinson-Madden and Dr. Ruth Baker-Gardener respectively. I am happy to report that Academic Section was well represented at these sessions thirteen (13) on the 1st, ten (10) on the 10th and fourteen (14) on the 22nd).

The inaugural Research Week was observed between November 1st and 5th under the theme: **“ALIGNING RESEARCH TO INDUSTRY NEEDS FOR GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY”** The Academic support was overwhelming.

October 6, 2021, saw several Academic Librarians participating in EBSCO’s **“Open Research”** webinar with Mike MacKinnon and Tamir Borensztajin.

D) **ADVOCACY TRAINING**

The Academic Section was represented at the Train-the-Trainer advocacy training sessions held on June 15th and 16th and hosted by the American Library Association.



COVID-19 Promotional flyer (Courtesy of LIAJAPR)

E) **COPING WITH THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19**

Prior to the November 26th Regular meeting, we had Clinical Counsellor at the Montego Bay Community College Mr. Gerard Gayle delivering a superb and timely presentation *"Coping with the effects of COVID-19"*. The session had some forty (40) devices logged on. Feedback received indicated that it was a very interactive session and participants were elated and welcomed this timely presentation.

F) OTHER SESSIONS

1) DLIS INFOTalk

Several College Librarians and PARA Professionals participated in the UWI Department of Library and Information Studies' *DLIS's INFOTalk* series of seminar held during the period October 6 to November 24, 2021.

2) LIBRARY AND INFORMATION WEEK 2021 (October 31 to November 6)

Many Academic Libraries implemented various programmed of activities prior to and during the week.

G) PUBLICATIONS

During the captioned period, the following Academic Librarians had their works published:

- i. Past Membership Chair Denise Hunter of the Hiram S. Walters Resource Centre, Northern Caribbean University "*School Libraries Should be Equipped to Operate in the Virtual Space*" (MS #1012) published in the Journal of Adventist Libraries and Archives.
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/jala/vol6/iss1/1>
- ii. Our Honorary Secretary, Simone Harrison co-authored with President, Mark-Jeffery Deans: "*The Methodology Used to Deliver Information Literacy Instruction by a Select Group of Academic Librarians: A Case Study*", published by Emerald.
- iii. Vice President Marsha Crawford collaborated with Past President Jollette Russell and others on a publication titled "*Experiences, perspectives, and emerging frameworks: COLINET libraries response to the COVID-19 pandemic*", this is available via Emerald Insight:
<https://doi.org/10.1108/GKMC-03-2021-0055>

BRIEF REPORTS FROM ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

1. Shortwood Teachers' College:

- A new circulation system will be “rolling out” this semester. We will be seeking assistance in training from National Library of Jamaica.

2. Sam Sharpe Teachers' College:



Sam Sharpe Men of Excellence featuring Kevin Samuda (Clip courtesy of The Western Mirror)

- The period from June 16 to September 21, 2021, was very low keyed mostly due the COVID-19 pandemic. Final Semester Examinations were held from the period July 1-14, 2021.
- A presentation on “Online Resources” was done virtually for Postgraduate-Diploma students by Librarian Mr. Kevin Samuda on July 5, and for Year 1 & 2 Evening College students on July 12, 2021.

3. St. Joseph's Teachers' College:

- The College conducted a 1-week orientation for year 4 practicum students from September 6th to 10th. The Librarian, Ms. Tamara McCrea did a session on the library resources.

4. Moneaque Community College:

- The library continues to be in operation despite the pandemic being faced. We have a full complement of staff members reporting for work daily. Since the start of the academic year, 2021-2022, some staff members have been asked to sit in and assist other departments.

5. Bethlehem Moravian College:

- C.C.C.J. students' classes commenced Monday, September 20, 2021, online.
- Colloquium 2021 took place on Thursday, September 9, 2021, for all categories of staff.

6. Knox Community College:

- The Library staff successfully added all book titles to the ISIMS platform.

7. Brown's Town Community College:

- The College Library continues to follow the COVID-19 prevention and control protocols.

8. Montego Bay Community College

- Library week took place October 25 – 29, 2021. Various training sessions were scheduled during the week to accommodate both students and staff. Participants were asked to complete an evaluation form, it consisted of forty-three (43) respondents. 73.8% thought the session were relevant to completion of assignments etc., while 26.2% thought they were highly relevant. Of the 43 respondents 32.6% preferred a time of 6:00 -7:00 p.m. for future training sessions such as these.
- Library and Information Professionals' Day was celebrated on Thursday, November 4, 2021, the library staff were feted with cake and wine.



Librarian Marsha Crawford making presentation to a representative of Westhaven Children's Home (Picture courtesy of MBCC)

- In observation of World Food, the Library spearheaded the collection and distribution of well needed items for the Westhaven Children's Home in December.

9. Catholic College of Mandeville -

- Throughout the pandemic, the CCM library continues to remain functional. The opening hours are 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

10. KNOCKALVA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

- The College Librarian volunteered with the Great Shape Super Kids Inc. Literacy Project in Negril in September for 5 days. This initiative was endorsed by the Ministry of Education and Sandals Foundation. The children were taught Language Art using various teaching methods to help increase their vocabulary and reinforce letter sounds. The volunteers from North America, Canada and Jamaica were able to teach Computer Science, Physical Education, Language Arts, Art using songs and games to enrich their literacy skills.

- The College Librarian was selected as the 2021 – 2022 League Excellence Award Recipient. The League for Innovation in the Community College (League) is an international nonprofit organization with a mission to cultivate innovation in the community college environment.

11. Mico University College:

- The University recently launched its digital library, and they are now in the process of marketing it.
- The Mico University College will be celebrating 185 years this year and as a result the library is responsible for creating a digital exhibition which would include a lot of information on the University College. This include covering the school’s history, past achievement and what we intend on achieving in the future.

12. Caribbean Maritime University:

- The Library staff attended several webinars both locally and internationally.
- Library staff is conducting research on a reference chat services that can be used to assist users, especially since the University is operating in a virtual space. We will be asking the IT Department to develop a chat service for us on one of the teaching platforms.

13. Northern Caribbean University:

- During the month of August liaison librarians delivered information literacy sessions and library orientation to faculty and staff as the University prepared to welcome new students and staff. The library participated in the 2nd virtual New Workers Welcome and Orientation and the New Students Orientation on August 17 and August 25 respectively.
- Miss Denise Hunter, Cataloguing Librarian has published an article in the Journal of Adventist Libraries and Archives titled “School Libraries should be equipped to Operate in the Virtual Space”. The article highlighted the situation with school libraries in the Caribbean not being equipped to operate in the online environment in this COVID-19 period when online teaching and learning is predominant. She implored schools to get their libraries online, instead of simply reassigning the Librarians to other

duties or using the library space for other activities, since online services are likely to continue after the pandemic has ended.

14. University of Technology, Jamaica

- Two (2) Librarians attended the Caribbean Association of Librarians conference.
- The library continued to be involved in Information Literacy sessions which is a part of our academic writing modules. All librarians are scheduled to conduct these sessions. For the third-year students, the librarians conduct Research Method session to help with accessing online sources and using APA effectively.

ACADEMIC LIBRARY STANDARDS

We await the final version of the revised “**Standards for Academic Library**” currently being worked on by COLINET. Indications are that both digital and printed formats will be available.

STAFFING AND GENERAL OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Institutions reporting that Para-Professional (Library Assistants) are now back in their substantive positions, having previously assigned to non-library duties. Most Academic Librarians reported that they are currently operating from office after a period of working from home. We note that only a few Academic Librarians reported receiving devices from their institutions to facilitate working from home. Many have had to be used their personal devices and some had to be sharing with family members which would have affected work schedule. Most Libraries are now offering blended services

INFORMATION LITERACY

The Section received several inquiries from Academic Librarians requesting assisting in the formulation and delivery of Information Literacy to first year students.

CONGRATULATIONS

- a) The following Academic Librarians were commissioned as Justices of the Peace for the Island of Jamaica: Dr. Rosemarie Heath (DLIS), Ms. Simone Harrison (UWI), Mr. Mark-Jeffrey Deans (DLIS) and Mr. Joseph Kerr (MBCC).

- b) Mrs. Marsha Stewart-Crawford on being elected to the Board of Management of the Montego Bay Community College for the period 2022 -2025. Mrs. Stewart-Crawford will be succeeding fellow Librarian, Mr. Joseph Kerr who served for over ten (10) years.
- c) Mr. Kevin Samuda was given special recognition in October by the Sam Sharpe Teachers' College family.
- d) Mrs. Kerry-Ann Kerr Librarian at the Knockalva Polytechnic College was selected as the 2021 – 2022 League Excellence Award Recipient.
- e) In late November Browns Town Community College's Librarian Mrs. Pauline Hudson-Christie was acknowledged by the Jamaica Civil Service Association for twenty-six (26) years of service to the field of education.



I want to personally congratulate my Library Assistant at the Westmoreland Campus, Ms. Tara Blackwood who successfully completed her course of studies and graduated on Sunday, December 5th with *Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work*.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND CONCLUSION

Mr. Chairman, and members, heartfelt gratitude to Association for again affording me the opportunity to serve on the Executive and more so as the Chair for the Academic Section, it was indeed a satisfying period. The experience gained was priceless, the solidarity and networking within the Association has no doubt enhanced my professional development.

The proposal to formulate collaboration with membership Working Party for the implementation of virtual training sessions did not materialize. Additionally, the development of Membership questionnaire was not done.

To my Library support staff at the MBCC Westmoreland Campus (Ms. Tara Blackwood) I express special thanks for the tremendous support given. Thanks also to our PR Officer, Monique, and her team for seeing to the timely circulation of the selected links.

Records and Archives Management

Submitted by: Tracey-Ann Ricketts, Chair, Records and Archives Management Section

The year 2021 saw the Records and Archives Management (RAM) Section with chair Tracey-Ann Ricketts. The year proved to be a very challenging one not only due to the pandemic but also with the recruitment of members for the section and personal issues. Unfortunately, with the current COVID-19 crisis, and time constraints the team was only able to meet once via Microsoft Teams, to discuss the way for the section and some plans to support practitioners in the RAM professions. Persons also shared occasionally in the WhatsApp group established for the section.

The Strategic Plan for 2021 was developed however; none of the initiative presented came to fruition due mainly to time constraints of team members, the COVID-19 pandemic and personal issues. The outgoing Chair will support anyone who heads the Section in getting any proposals or initiatives that will be put forward.

I must thank my colleagues who recently have volunteered to be a part of the RAM Section and I hope they will continue to serve and support the new Chair in the coming Administrative Year. Whole-hearted gratitude to LIAJA for affording me the opportunity to serve as Chair for the RAM Section, it was indeed a pleasure. The experience gained was instrumental; my involvement within the Association has enhanced my professional and personal development.

Retired Members

Submitted by: John Aarons, Secretary, Retired Members Group

As a result of the covid pandemic, the Group did not meet during the year. Members however kept in touch with each other through WhatsApp, email and the old-fashioned telephone. Members participated in meetings and other events organized by the parent body.

The LIAJA Retired Members Bursary was awarded to Ms Lucianne Reid, a student at the DLIS. Ms Reid's academic performance has been good and she hopes to graduate this year. Congratulations to Ms Carol Ford, a member of the Group who received the Badge of Honour for "Long and Faithful Service to the Judiciary and the Legal Profession" in the Independence Honours. It is a well-deserved recognition of her work over the years.

During the year the Group lost some of its faithful members. These were Professor Fay Durrant, Ms Valerie Francis, Ms Barbara Chevannes, Ms Yolanda Mittoo, Ms Glory Robertson and Mrs Sheila Lampart. Tributes were paid to them and members were able to 'attend' their thanksgiving services which were streamed, as well as the one for Mrs Ouida Lewis whose memorial service was held in January 2021. May their Souls Rest in Peace.

School Libraries

Submitted by: Ruth Baker-Gardner, Chair, Schools Section

Introduction

This past year has been a challenging one for everyone concerned, and the school section was not exempted from the challenges.

Workshops in partnership with Jamaica Library Service

The highlight of the year was a series of workshops dubbed “School Libraries on the Information Highway” which was done in partnership with the Jamaica Library Service. This series ran from Wednesday, February 24, 2021 to Thursday, March 25, 2021, **via Zoom**. Of the twelve sessions which were planned, 10 were done. The two sessions which did not materialise were “Cataloguing with RDA” and “Proposal Writing”. The sessions were attended by a total of 318 persons including those from school, public and academic libraries.

This series was offered free of cost and was designed to help school libraries to tailor their services to the online environment so that they can offer at least minimal service. The workshops topics and dates are displayed on the table below.

TOPICS	DATE	TIME
1. The Role of School Libraries	Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
2. Developing a Plan for ICT Implementation	Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
3. Free E-reading Resources for Primary Schools	Friday, Feb. 26, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
4. Free Curriculum Resources for Secondary Schools	Wednesday, Mar. 3, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
5. Steps in Acquiring EBSCO Database	Thursday, Mar. 4, 2021	12:00 noon to 2:30 pm
6. Acquiring Koha (Integrated Library Management System)	Friday, Mar. 5, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm

7. Developing Bibliographies	Subject	Thursday, Mar. 11, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
8. Teaching Information Literacy Online	Information	Thursday, Mar. 18, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
9. Writing Library Reports	Library	Wednesday, Mar. 24, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm
10. Evaluating Impact	Library	Thursday, Mar. 25, 2021	12:00 noon to 3:30 pm

Based on the evaluation, the workshops were well received, however the follow up sessions that were intended to be held in October 2021 were postponed.

Section Executive

Congratulations to the section executive that worked together over the past five years to make the section a success. We say goodbye this year to three members as they embark on another leg of their professional journey. These are:

Mrs Cynthia Hewitt (Librarian – Kingston College)

Miss Ana Kay Lobban (Librarian – Ardenne High)

Mrs Charlene Riley (former Librarian – Yallahs Primary)

We are grateful for their service and wish them the best.

Joining the executive for the upcoming LIAJA year is:

Mrs Judith Stamp – (Librarian – Camperdown High)

The following executive members will continue to serve:

Miss Faithlyn Reader (Librarian – Edith Dalton James High)

Miss Debbie Smith (Librarian – Half-Way-Tree Primary)

Miss Monique Batchelor (Teacher – Central High)

Mrs Dawn Vernon (Librarian – Wolmers Girls)

The new executive will meet in the final week of February to work out the schedule of activities for the upcoming year.

Special Libraries

Submitted by: Leleka Johnson, Chair, Special Libraries Section

The Chair, Ms. Leleka Johnson would like to thank God for bringing the section through this pandemic. Huge thanks also to the LIAJA Executive Committee that continues to support the section in any way possible. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to hamper the activities and functions of the section tremendously.

Many of the libraries in the section are still close to the public because of the pandemic. A few has re-opened with severe restrictions, limited access and by appointments. Despite the restrictions of the pandemic several Special Libraries were able to participate or contribute to the LIAJA Library and Information Week held in November 2021. LIAJA and The Special Libraries Section partnered with The Government Libraries and Information Network of Jamaica (GLINJa) on several initiatives within the week and otherwise. The Planning Institute of Jamaica and The Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creations are a few of the libraries that set up display and had activities to celebrate the week.

LIAJA continues to support the section in any way possible and as the Chair I continue to plea and encourage other Special Libraries within Jamaica to come on board and join the association.

Reports of Working Parties

Education & Training

Submitted by: Nicola Palmer, Chair, Education and Training Working Party

From the Executive Committee of the Library and Information Association of Jamaica, the Education and Training Working Party received the broad mandate to make plans to fulfill the following objectives:

- *Determine the training needs of the information professionals*
- *Plan seminars/workshops*
- *Distribute critical information among colleagues*
- *Engage in practical collaborations with Working Parties/Sections*
- *Manage the mentorship programme via Library Training Institutions*

At the start of its administrative year, within the first meeting, the team decided on the following strategic outcomes for 2021:

Outcomes

- *The need to bring visibility to the profession*
- *Aim to provide sessions and interventions that will help members recapture passion of librarianship*
- *Build collaborations with Advocacy Sub-Committee in planning training sessions*
- *Create a needs assessment instrument to gauge the training needs of the membership*
- *Revive mentorship programme via the Library Training Institutions*

Accomplishments

The Education and Training Working Party was able to achieve the following during its 2021 tenure:

- Creation of a committee comprising five individuals in the persons of : Winsome Hudson, Nicola Palmer (Chair), Nicole Prawl, Maureen Webster Prince, Sonia Stewart
- Preparation and distribution of a Training Needs Assessment survey among the general membership. The results were to be used to prioritize training according to the more highly requested.
- Hosting of motivational speaker Dr Nsombi Jaja for an interactive session within LIAJA's Regular Meeting of June 11, 2021.

Outcomes Pending

Training workshop for membership as determined by Needs Assessment Survey.
Revisiting and assessing the Young Librarians Mentorship Programme.

Fund Raising

Submitted by: Stacey Morant, Chair, Fund Raising Working Party



Discussions for the year included objectives and strategies for funding. These included ideas for having steady revenue coming into the Association. It is recommended that consistent meetings with at least the Heads of the Committees and working parties be done to see what they have in place, what their upcoming events are, and what support they would want from the funding working party.

The main aim of the committee was to promote fundraising initiatives through:

- ◆ Creating and implementing fundraising opportunities to sustain LIAJA's financial responsibilities
- ◆ Supporting the objectives of committees and other working parties, to ensure deliverables are met according to work-plan and budgetary obligations.

INITIATIVES/ PROGRAMMES

Visibility for LIAJA Services

-Assist in creating opportunities that will enable visibility for LIAJA.

Support the Objectives of LIAJA

-Create activities that are inline with the objectives of LIAJA.

Schedule Activities

-Create a schedule of activities to better assist with managing and planning.

OUTCOMES

Create a strategic plan of action

- Strategic plan is an integrated effort between all committees and working parties.*
- Create financially viable opportunities to generate funds and/or kind.*

Identify corporate sponsors

- Two (2) corporate sponsors identified, and marketing/public relations personnel approached.*

Retention and promotion of new membership

- List collated from the GOJ Assignment of Subjects, identifying MDAs.*
- Compiling list of responsible HR managers, Librarians and Director DIAS.*

See Appendix A: LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

Information Technology

Submitted by: Marsha-Gay Robinson, Chair, Information Technology Working Party

The strategic focus of the Information Technology Working Party was to maintain a current and active website and to raise the Association’s visibility within and external to the library and information community. The LIAJA website is a 10-page WordPress site with an e-commerce component and can be accessed at the URL: www.liaja.org.jm.

Updates & Maintenance of the Website

Throughout the year several important updates were made to the website:

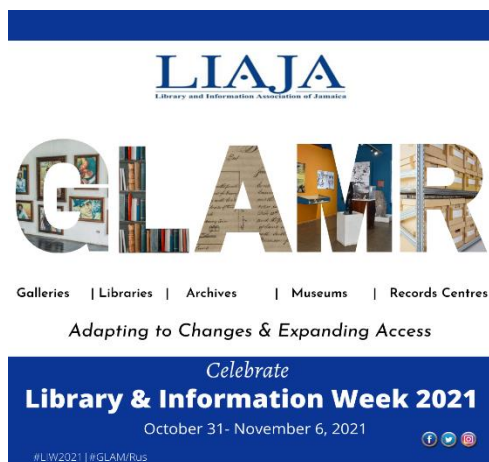
Focus	Updates to Website
Publications/Documents	Documents uploaded to the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>LIAJA 70th Anniversary Magazine</i> • <i>LIAJA Annual Report 2020-2021</i> • <i>LIAJA Constitution and Bye-Laws uploaded</i> • <i>Personal and Institutional Membership Forms</i>
News & Events	Important events and announcements were highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica Observer news article entitled: <i>“Public libraries balancing virtual, physical services”</i> • Montego Bay Community College Research Writing Webinar • RIM Symposium 2021 • LIAJA Regular Meeting (June & November) • Banner and blurb for Library and Information Week 2021 • Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2021
Banners & Graphics	Banners and photos were uploaded to the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“How we support our members”</i> banner • Library and Information Week 2021 • Photos from the 2020 Awards ceremony and luncheon
Information about the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The blurb for the various Sections and Working Parties

Association	<p>were reviewed and updated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'About Us' page was updated with the contact information for the current Executive • The 'Affiliations' webpage was renamed 'Resources' and updated
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Graphics Design support

The ITWP provided graphic design support through the creation of banners, flyers, and e-cards. These included:

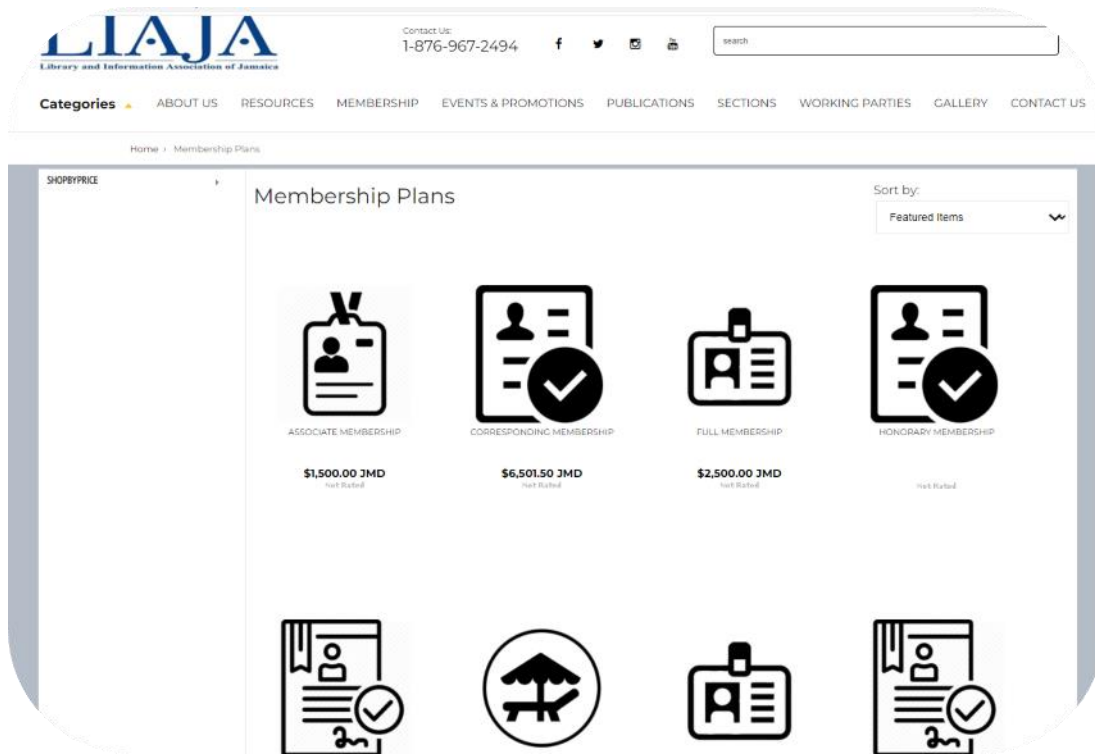
- Banners and flyers to promote Library and Information Week 2021. The graphics were used for the branding of the Association’s social media pages (FB, IG, Twitter, LinkedIn) website and circulated to the general membership.
- An E-Christmas Card was also designed and circulated through the PRWP to the general membership.
- A “**How we support our members**” banner was designed and uploaded to the website to highlight the membership benefits of the Association



Banners designed and uploaded the Association’s website and or Social Media pages.

E-Commerce

The website was used to facilitate two (2) membership payments. Invoices were generated and forwarded to LIAJA Treasurer and Membership and Conditions of Service Working Party for confirmation and updating of the Association's records. For the period March 1, 2021, to January 2022 there were 1322 unique visitors to the website.



E- Commerce page of the website. Members can pay their membership fees online

Membership & Conditions of Service

Submitted by: Nicoleen Saunders-Grant, Chair, Membership and Conditions of Service Working Party

The Membership and Conditions of Service working party at the start of the Executive year laid down the following strategic objectives, 1) to improve membership experience, and 2) provide support to other working parties re membership.

Activities

Membership Contact Audit

To overcome the issue of not receiving LIAJA correspondences faced by some members. During the first part of the year a call was made via email and during a Regular Party meeting for all members to send their full name, organization, position and email to Membership email however, only a small percentage of the membership body responded. Therefore, an audit of the membership database and Google contacts was completed, and the members contact list was updated according to the results of the audit, while a new LIAJA membership Google group was created.



Library and Information Week Membership Promotions & Information

Professional's Day Trivia

The committee tried to engage the membership during Library and Information Week in the form of membership discount promotions and a trivia on Information Professional's

Day that asked questions about Past Presidents and founding details. This trivia had a successful run seeing two (2) members winning prizes one being institutional membership while the other was student membership.

Membership Updates

Awards

Miss Carol Ford received the 'Badge of Honour for: Long and Faithful Service' for her "Contribution to the Judiciary and Legal Profession" in the National Honours and Awards, on Heroes Day.

Deaths

The Association lost a few of our stalwart members, one of our former presidents, Miss Katie May Mungo, who died November 1, 2021, in her homeland, Trinidad and Tobago. Ms. Mungo was president of the then Jamaica Library Association (JLA) in 1981, and under whose stewardship the Special Libraries Section was formed.

Mr. Esahack Mohammed, retired Librarian and former Director, Educational Library Services Division, NALIS, passed away on Thursday 11th November 2021.

Miss Barbara Chavannes another one of our past presidents died August 1, 2021, after a long period of home confinement. She was active in the Jamaica Library Association and served in many capacities including that of President in 1979.

Mrs. Sheila I Lampart, a former Secretary (1964 Jan - July) and President of the then Jamaica Library Association (1983), and one of the real stalwarts of the library profession, Mrs. Lampart died on January 15, 2022.

Congratulations

DLIS celebrated its 50th anniversary

Mrs. Tricia Powell elected as a representative to the OCLC Americas Regional Council (ARC) for the period 2021 – 2024.

Public Relations

Submitted by: Monique Forgie-Scott, Chair, Public Relations Working Party

The Public Relations Working Party Annual Report 2021-2022

Introduction

Committee Members

- Monique Forgie-Scott, Chair
- Marsha Crawford
- Kimone Frazer

For the 2020-21 reporting period, the PRWP Team's three (3) major initiatives were to:

- Engage the public through press releases and statements, Letters to the Editor and the Gleaner supplement.
- Support or set up a library for institutionalised children.
- Team up with the Jamaica Environment Trust as a volunteer for the International Coastal Clean-up Day (ICC) 2021

The Gleaner Supplement was published on Thursday, November 4, 2021, during Library and Information Week.

As it relates to a PR project for this year, we had planned to set up a library at the Yadel Children's Home during May - Child's Month. We had dialogue with the institution manager who welcomed the idea but said they had limited space. They were to share photos of the space since onsite visit was not preferred but to date, the photos were not received despite numerous promises to do so.

We missed the new date for the ICC which was to be held in September but was postponed due to the pandemic.

Dissemination of Information

The Party continued to circulate, through its communication channels, notices and announcements that were of interest to, and for the benefit of members. These included:

- LIAJA Financial Audit 2019
- Membership Audit 2021
- New Executive Council for ACURIL - Mr. David Drysdale, Campus Librarian, University of Technology, Jamaica appointed as Vice President/President-Elect and Mr. Nicholas Graham as the LIAJA representative
- Meetings, lectures, observances, for example the LIAJA Regular meetings for June 11 and November 26, respectively; DLIS Info Talk Series; UWI Mona Open Week, and Global Media and International Literacy Week
- Publications, call for papers
- Library and Information Week 2021 information
- Training and employment opportunities such as the Schools Library Section workshops (**Teaching Information Literacy Online; Proposal Writing; and Writing Library Reports**) and vacancies at the BOJ **Documents/Records Management Analyst** and the NLJ for a **Manager, Collections Development**).
- Congratulations (Marsha Crawford, Simone Harrison, Jollette Russell on new publications; Carol Ford on receiving the Badge of Honour), wishes, condolences (family and friends of Sheila Lampart, OD, Katie May Mungo, Barbara Chevannes, Sybil Iton, OD), thanksgiving services, etc.

Library & Information Week 2021 | October 31-November 6

Church Service

Library & Information Week (LIW) 2021 was held under the theme: **GLAM/R: Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access**. The Week started off with a church service held at the Barbican Baptist Church situated at 106 Barbican Road. The service was streamed live via the Church's YouTube channel where it will remain for those who wish to view.

The President Deans delivered the LIW 2021 deeply hopeful that Jamaicans will develop greater appreciation for the roles of galleries, libraries, archives, museums and records centres in community and organisational development and engagement, preservation of institutional and national heritage, facilitation of public access to information, the promotion of peace, transparency, and good governance.

Virtually attending the service were:

- Kishma Simpson of the JLS
- Chantal Cousins of the NLJ and Executive Member
- Nicola Palmer of the NCU and Executive Member
- Genevieve Jones-Edman of the Toronto Public Library
- Joy Will of the UDC
- Winsome Hudson former National Librarian
- Dorothy Palmer, Retired
- John Aarons, Secretary of the Retired Members Group
- Princess Gordon Commock of the MEGJC
- Jessica Lewis Marshall of the UWI Mona Library
- Joseph Kerr of the MBCC
- Kaye-Ann Robinson of the PIOJ
- Denise Hunter of the NCU

Attending the service in person were:

- Mark-Jeffery Deans, President
- Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington, 1st VP & Treasurer
- Monique Forgie-Scott, Chair, Public Relations Working Party
- Simone Harrison, Honorary Secretary
- Ruth Baker-Gardener, Chair, Schools Section



LIAJA in the Media

Mr. Deans accepted an invitation for a radio interview on NCU FM radio alongside Miss Nicola Palmer, Director of Library Services at NCU on November 1, 2021. It was a great interview which highlighted the theme of LIW 2021 and recognising GLAMR for the work they do.

Mr. Deans was interviewed by Neville Bell on TVJ Smile Jamaica on November 4, 2021, in celebration of LIW 2021 and was also interviewed on Radio Jamaica (RJR) Courtesy of the Jamaica Library Service (JLS).



*Mr. Mark-Jeffery Deans, President of LIAJA being interviewed by Mr. Neville Bell, host of Smile Jamaica on Television Jamaica.
Library and Information Professional Day, November 4, 2021*

Mr. Deans also participated in a panel discussion hosted by the UNESCO Jamaica National Commission and the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica as part of Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2021, October 24-31. The discussion was held under the theme: **Tackling Jamaica's Media and Information Literacy Deficit**. A video clip from the discussion can be viewed on LIAJA's Instagram page @liajpr.



Many Ways to Keep in Touch with LIAJA

Website – liaja.org.jm

Email – liajaprjm@gmail.com

Instagram @liajapr

Facebook – Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)

Twitter @liajaprjm

LinkedIn – LIAJA Jamaica

Research and Publications

Submitted by: Mark-Jeffery Deans, on behalf of Dr. Sasekea Harris, Chair, Research and Publications

Working Party

The Working Party continues to aim for its goal of promoting research and information sharing initiatives through:

- Capturing and sharing ideas and experiences regarding research relevant to the field of Library and Information Management; and
- Encouraging and supporting further research and innovations in the field Library and Information Management.

Although the objective of publishing the LIAJA Journal for the year 2021 was not realized, Dr. Sasekea Harris continues to spearhead work being done on the LIAJA Journal, with the hope of publishing in the year 2022.

Reports of Sub-Committees

Advocacy

Submitted by: Adele Merritt Bernard, Advocacy Sub-Committee

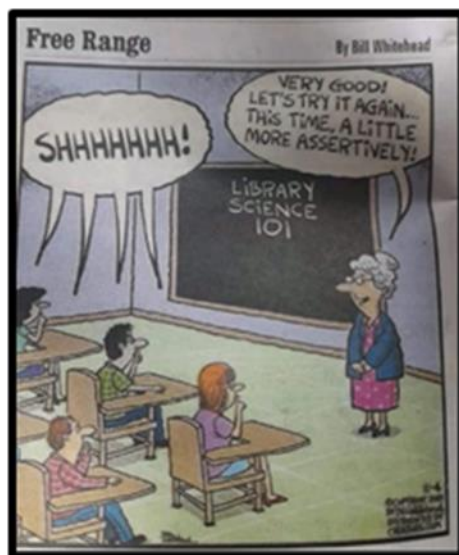
The focus of the year's activity was on building a foundation for a sustainable advocacy platform for LIAJA. To this end, two half-day Advocacy Academy training sessions were arranged and conducted free of charge by Megan Cusick, Assistant Director, State Advocacy, Public Policy & Advocacy of the American Library Association on June 15th and 16th, 2021. Ten (10) members of the Executive attended the training, which explored the five key steps in library advocacy planning and included a manual to be used for future train-the-trainer exercises on advocacy. The knowledge and insight gained from the sessions will be an important element in developing a long-term advocacy campaign for LIAJA, including the active participation of all members as library advocacy champions.

The Advocacy Sub-Committee also continued its relationship with the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) in coordination with Mr. Stephen Wyber, Manager, Policy and Advocacy, IFLA. We were kept abreast of a consideration to reform Jamaica's copyright law to facilitate access to accessible-format works for people with print disabilities (in line with the Marrakesh Treaty); Jamaica's plan to undertake a Voluntary National Review of its implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2022; and to support IFLA's work in strengthening capacity to speak up for libraries everywhere by participating in the IFLA Survey on Regional Advocacy Priorities. Work continues to facilitate updating the information related to libraries in Jamaica, on IFLA's Libraries of the World Campaign. We also collaborated with IFLA through their Guide to Library Engagement in Voluntary National Reviews to ensure that the role of libraries in driving development is recognised and supported in GOJ's 2022 Voluntary National Review of its implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Advocacy Sub-Committee continues work to identify and develop strategic partnerships with local organizations and is working to identify and develop proposals for ways in which LIAJA could add value to the work of potential strategic partners and/or create new joint initiatives.

Work also continued on the “Librarian Series” under the direction of the National Library of Jamaica.

Unfortunately, because the Sub-Committee essentially operated as a party of one, for the duration of the year, it was difficult to adequately address all areas of the Group’s mandate as desired. For example, the response to the Editor, Jamaica Observer highlighting the role/work of Librarians after the cartoon (shown below) which appeared in the newspaper on November 5th.



I nevertheless thank, Mrs. Vergie-Lee Lawson and Ms. Audrey Saddler, both of the Main Library, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, who did indicate an interest in serving on this Sub-Committee but were unable to do so because of the demands of work and health concerns. I encourage us all to become more involved in the affairs of our Association for as Helen Keller stated “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much!”

Awards

Submitted by Mark-Jeffery Deans on behalf of Juliet Fuller, Chair, Awards Sub-Committee



The Section's **aims/initiatives** for the year were to:

compliment and further engage stakeholders to commit to fostering a long-term partnership with the section. These initiatives are:

- Long Service Award (in tandem with the 70th Anniversary)
- Mentorship Award
- Internship Award – targeting new Librarians/Records.
- Most Outstanding Library Week Initiative/Activity (Both group and individual award).

In addition, the section had ambitiously wished to undertake and collaborate with sections and working parties. The section also intended to target external stakeholders in a bid to gain their commitment through cash or sponsorship to further attract and compliment the list of awards categories available.

However, Ms. Juliet Fuller, due to personal reasons had to relinquish her position as Chair of the Committee. As a result, the objectives were not fully achieved. It is my hope that these plans will be revisited and that 2022-2023 will be a better year for the Committee to fulfil its mandates.

Building and Property Development

Submitted by: Mark-Jeffery Deans, on behalf of Nicholas Graham, Chair, Building and Property Development Sub-Committee

There were a number of robust conversations on the issue of building and property development throughout the year. In particular, the discussions surrounded moving forward with plans to have the land valuated and the reestablishment of the Building and property sub-committee. As Chairman of the Board, Mr. Drysdale thought it prudent to have someone else Chair the committee. As a result, Mr. Nicholas Graham was approached to Chair the Committee and he accepted.

Subsequent to his acceptance to chair the committee Mr. Graham organized an interim committee and a meeting was had July, 2021. Present at the meeting were the following persons:

Nicholas Graham, Chair

Adele Merrit Bernard

Joseph Kerr

Mark-Jeffery Deans

Chief among the discussions were:

- Plans to have the property valuated
- Plans to pay land tax that was accumulated
- Plans to pave the property
- Suggestions on revisiting the idea of utilizing the LIAJA property as an income generator for the Association which included utilizing the premises as a parking lot and possible sale of the property itself.

In November 2021, the property was de-bushed and debris removed and trucked.

Functions

Submitted by: Chantal Cousins, Chair, Functions Sub-Committee

We wish to thank the members of the Association who committedly participated in the events during the 2021-2022 administrative year. We are optimistic that 2022-2023, the Subcommittee will be better able to execute the other plans of the Association by adapting to change of events planning and management.

Reports from Institutions

DLIS/Library Training Institutions

Submitted by: Mark-Jeffery Deans, Chair, DLIS/LTI

Annual newsletter vol. 4 was published in (MARCH 2021) and highlighted a number of activities including:


- The Appointment of Professor Jeanette Bastian to lead the Doctorial programme
- Highlights on DLIS Research Students
- DLIS Info Talks Seminar Series



The Department of Library and Information Studies, Annual newsletter vol. 4

The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS), Seminar Series

The Department of Library and Information Studies, had a number of seminar series, under the theme "Info Talks" The series were an integral part of the Department's drive to create an active and robust environment for research and research output. The sessions were coordinated by Dr. Stanley Griffin,



INFO TALKS
DLIS DEPARTMENT SEMINAR SERIES

PROF. EMERITA JEANNETTE BASTIAN
HONORARY FELLOW, INFORMATION STUDIES

"UNDER THE CARIBBEAN INFORMATION UMBRELLA: LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS AS MEMORY INSTITUTIONS."

IN THIS TALK, AS EUROPEAN ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES ARE BOTH INFORMATION AND MEMORY INSTITUTIONS, BOTH THE CARIBBEAN PUBLIC AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS NEED A FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING OF THESE THREE SPACES IN ORDER TO DESIGN, DEVELOP AND PROVIDE THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES BEING OF THESE COMMUNITIES

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 3 FEB 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

SEAN POOK TEN
SENIOR RESEARCHER, LIBRARY AND ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS, UNIVERSITY OF KENT, UNITED KINGDOM

"AV PRESERVATION - BALANCING BEST PRACTICES AGAINST THE RACE WITH OBSOLESCENCE."

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 17 MAR 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

VALERIE MARTENS-HOOPER
SENIOR CONSULTANT, NATIONAL ARCHIVES, CANADA

"CARING FOR A COLLECTION OF TECHNICAL DRAWINGS AND PUTTING HUNTPY DUMPTY TOGETHER AGAIN"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 24 MAR 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

EVELYN THOMPSON
CONSULTANT, JAMAICA ARCHIVES, NATIONAL TRUST

"CONSERVATION: THE SLEEPING GIANT"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 31 MAR 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

NICOLEEN SAUNDERS-GRANT
SR ARCHIVE AND SPECIALS MANAGER

RUSHELLE CLARKE
SR LIBRARIAN & PROFESSOR STUDENT

"DRIVING JAMAICAN MEMORIES: THE ARCHIVAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JAMAICAN CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FESTIVAL SONGS"

"FACTORS AFFECTING STUDENTS USE OF A SELECT ACADEMIC LIBRARY IN A POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION IN JAMAICA: A CASE STUDY"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 31 MAR 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES


DEHAR LUQFORD
SR ARCHIVE AND SPECIALS MANAGER

TRACEY-ANN RICKETTS
SR ARCHIVE AND SPECIALS MANAGER

"PRIVATE ARCHIVES, SOCIAL HISTORY: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MARTHA BAILEY PAPERS TO NARRATIVES OF JAMAICAN LIVES EXPERIENCES"

"NON-DATA COLOUR BOOK VIBE: ARTIST AS JAMAICAN ARCHIVES"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 03 MARCH 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

STANLEY H. GRIFFIN, PHD
SR LIBRARIAN, INFORMATION STUDIES, DLIS

"CARONA AH LOOK ME! DOCUMENTING THE PANDEMIC: CARIBBEAN STYLE: A SKETCH"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 28 APRIL 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

MAUREEN WEBSTER-PRICE
HEAD INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, COLTAC, JAMAICA

"MANAGING DIGITAL MEDIA ASSETS IN A PANDEMIC OF EMERGING TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES"

MEETING ID: 932 3669 3670 | PASSWORD: 218014
Wednesday 10 MAR 2021 at 1 - 2:30PM (Jamaica Time)



INFO TALKS!
DLIS SEMINAR SERIES

"Information: The Next Normal"

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT LEVERAGING INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TO KEEP THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE TURNING IN THE COVID-19 ERA

DWAYNE M. BRISSETTE
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ABSTRACT:
Information management is critical to the daily functioning of justice systems across the globe. The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC) being no exception. During the outbreak and in many respects unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, the ECSC was forced to reimagine its established information management processes and procedures. This was achieved by leveraging information management using technology which became the main for the ECSC over the past 90 months. Consequently, the ECSC's efforts have in large part prevented serious impact for the people of the 9 member States and territories comprising the ECSC's jurisdiction.

WEDNESDAY
OCT 20, 2021

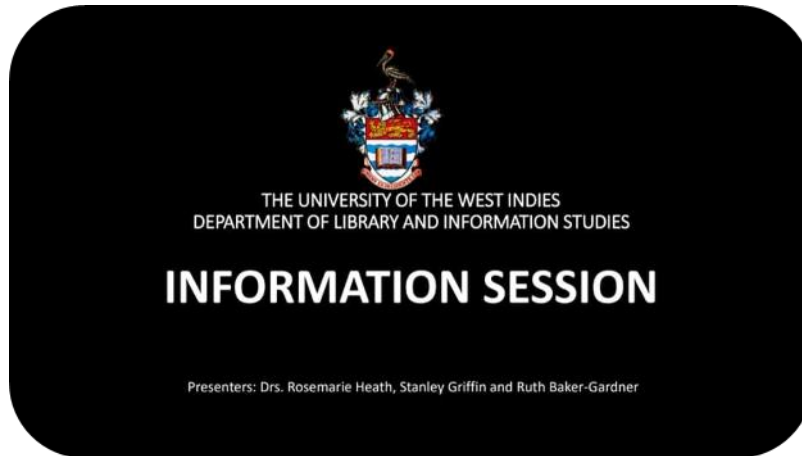
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JAMAICAN TIME

MEETING ID: 429-369-077

The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS), Graduate Research Seminars

In 2021, we started our Graduate Research Seminars in Information Studies, which features our MPhil and PhD candidates.





The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS) hosted a series of eight Zoom Information Sessions throughout the Caribbean from the 22nd of October to the 25th of November 2021. The aim of those sessions were to make persons aware of the existence of the DLIS and to market and promote the programmes that they have to offer. These sessions were chaired by Mr. Mark-Jeffrey Deans, DLIS's Librarian and Fieldwork Coordinator and saw presentations being given Dr. Rosemarie Heath, Lecturer and Head of the DLIS, Dr. Griffin, Deputy Dean for Undergraduate matters and Lecturer and Dr Ruth Baker-Gardner, Undergraduate Coordinator.

Mr. Deans participated in the Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2021 Featured Conference, held on the 25 to 29 October, 2021. The theme of the conference was “Media and information literacy for the public good”. Specifically, he was invited to speak in the session titled “Media and information literacy within youth organizations: Good practices and innovative approaches”, scheduled for Thursday, 28 October 2021.



On the 24 October, 2021, four students of The University of the West Indies Library and Information Studies Student Society (UWILISS), represented the Department at the recently held Global Media and Information Literacy Youth Hackathon led by UNESCO and South Africa in cooperation with European Commission. Their entry involved the team creating a temporary website, which incorporated MIL initiatives by the Society.



From left to right: President, JoDean Anderson, PRO, Ranjel Wynn (Mr.), Secretary, Danielle Phillips and Vice President, Jody Knight

The Department of Library and Information Studies had its inaugural church service in celebration of its 50th Anniversary on Sunday, November 14, 2021, at 10:00am at the Bethel Baptist Church. Plans are “in motion” to have a Symposium in celebration of the anniversary. There is a [Call for Presentations and Posters](#) and information / Guide for authors can be found on the DLIS’s Website.



Call for Papers, Presentations and Posters, DLIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM

March 29 - 31, 2022

Conference Theme

DLIS@50: Celebrating Education, Innovation, and Collaboration in an Ever-changing world

The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS) was established in 1971 and is the premier regional institution for educating information academics and professionals in the English-Speaking Caribbean.

This symposium therefore invites participants to:

- Celebrate the contributions, challenges, and triumphs Libraries and librarians have made over the last 50 years in the Caribbean,
- Consider the multiple ways Caribbean people create, disseminate, preserve and provide access to their Information,
- Reflect on the impact technology, ICT, social media and the rising digital culture is having on the cultural and customary ways information is being created, used, published and preserved in the Caribbean,
- Envision the next frontier for Caribbean Information and Memory Organizations: State-Lead or Community Driven?
- Deliberate on the significance of information legislation on the creation, use, preservation and accessing Information, especially in the digital environment.

- Reimagine the Caribbean Information Professional: what are the unique qualities, competencies, knowledge bases required of a Caribbean Librarian, Archivist, Curator, Digital Specialist, Memory Worker?
- Dream new visions for a truly Caribbean-oriented, research-driven, technology-inclusive Caribbean “Library/Information School”.

The Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS)

Notable Happenings

- ✚ Dr. Rosemarie Heath has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Library and Information Studies.
- ✚ Dr Griffin has been appointed Deputy Dean for Undergraduate matters.
- ✚ Dr. Paulette Stewart retired as Former Senior lecturer and Head of the Department of Library and Information Studies.
- ✚ The Memorial Service for the life and witness of Professor Claudette Fay Durrant was held on Saturday, February 6, 2021 at the Hope United Church.
- ✚ Dr. Rosemarie Heath was commissioned as a Justice of the Peace for The Parish of St. Andrew yesterday Thursday the 7th of October.

Jamaica Library Service

Submitted by: Keisha Walton, JLS Representative

The Jamaica Library Service (JLS) remained steadfast in its support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information throughout the year 2021. Though several challenges were brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, opportunities were also presented for the organization to be adaptable in meeting the information needs of its users. This included the steady strengthening of the JLS capacity to provide library users with remote access to virtual services. The hosting of library events and programmes islandwide were also modified to facilitate both face-to-face and virtual modalities to engage users in their unique spaces.

The JLS continued to garner significant support through networking with its stakeholders and the establishment of meaningful partnerships among other achievements.

PARTNERSHIPS

Malvern Branch Library Renewable Energy Initiative with BMR Energy

The Malvern Branch Library, St. Elizabeth is the beneficiary of a renewable energy system donated by BMR Energy. The system was commissioned at a virtual ceremony held at the Branch Library on November 3, 2021, endorsed by the Minister of Education and Youth and the Minister of Energy, Science and Technology. The system comprises a 4-kw solar electricity generating panels providing 13.5 Kw of renewable energy. The project is intended to increase individual and community awareness of the value of renewable energy and reduce the cost of electricity at the Malvern Branch Library. The library is a great location for field trips for students of educational institutions to visit and participate in information sessions on green energy/solar technology and to view the renewable energy corner, complete with storyboard and a phone charging station.

The ceremony was one of the events on the week of activities in observance of **Library and Information Week**. The ceremony was hosted by RJR 94 FM outside broadcast of the Hotline programme with presenter Clive Mullings. Several interviews were facilitated with participants of the ceremony, as well as other stakeholders, namely: A radio outside broadcast was also a feature of the ceremony, promoting the work of public libraries across Jamaica.

- Mr. Paul Lalor, Chairman, Jamaica Library Board
- Miss Maureen Thompson, Director General, Jamaica Library Service
- Dr. Kasan Troupe, Chief Education Officer, (Acting) MOEYI
- Mr. Bruce Levy, CEO, BMR Energy
- Miss Ava Tomlin, Regional Director, BMR Energy
- Mr. Mark Jeffery Deans, President, Library & Information Association of Jamaica
- Mrs. Lorraine McLean, Regional Director, Region 5
- Mrs. Louise Foster, Senior Librarian, St. Elizabeth Parish Library Network



*Exterior of the Malvern Branch Library –Jamaica’s first 100% solar powered public library and the cutting of the ribbon by JLS and BMR to mark the commissioning of the renewable energy system.
Interior of the branch library highlighting the renewable energy corner and kiddies corner.*

Memorandum of Understanding with the Accountant General’s Department

The JLS signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Thursday, November 18, 2021 with The Accountant General’s Department for the installation of Electronic Dropboxes at select parish and branch library locations. This partnership will serve to improve service delivery in the public sector, specifically to broaden the options for the collection of Life Certificates for greater efficiency in making payment to government pensioners. The partnership commenced with a pilot at the St. James Parish Library Network and included the installation and commissioning of the Dropbox and training of 12 staff at the parish library. Pensioners will also have the opportunity to become members of the library and access programmes and services offered.



Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Accountant General's Department. L-R: Rahja Harrison, Deputy Accountant General, AGD; Anya Jones, Accountant General, AGD; Maureen Thompson, Director General, JLS; Kishma Simpson, Senior Director, JLS

JLS/CHASE Fund Partnership to support Virtual Learning

The JLS continued to support the Ministry of Education's mandate approaches to ensure that teaching and learning continued despite the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2021 academic year. Students, parents and teachers were provided with access to ICT resources, reading and research material and on-the-spot-training to utilize various learning platforms at JLS locations across the island.

As part of the efforts to increase access and contribute to reducing the digital divide, the JLS approached CHASE Fund with a proposal for acquiring laptops, tablets and multifunctional printers for 25 remotely located branch libraries islandwide. CHASE funded the initiative which bolstered the availability of digital devices to support access to the MOEYI student/teacher online engagement of teaching/learning in these communities.



JLS/LIAJA School Librarians' Workshops

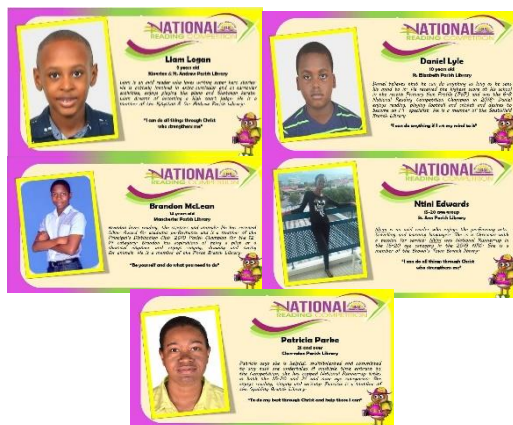
The JLS partnered with LIAJA Schools Section to host a series of online teacher-librarians training during the period February 24 – March 24, 2021. Five workshops were facilitated by JLS training initiatives, namely:

- **The Role of the School Library –Wednesday, February 24, 2021** presented by Mrs. Patsy Gordon, Director, School Library Network and Mrs. Lorraine McLean, Regional Director, Region 5
- **Developing a Plan for ICT Implementation –Thursday, February 25, 2021** presented by Mr. Adrian-Leigh Gilman, Deputy Director (Acting), Database & Network
- **Cataloguing with RDA - Wednesday, March 10, 2021** presented by Miss Tashyon Brown, Librarian, Cataloguing Department and Miss Jodie-Ann Brown, Deputy Director (Acting), Library Technology
- **Developing Subject Bibliographies - Thursday, March 11, 2021** presented by Mrs. Nicola Grant-Dyer, Regional Director, Region 2 and Mr. Sean Thomas, Senior Librarian (Acting)
- **Writing Effective Library Reports – Wednesday, March 24, 2021** presented by Mrs. Keisha Walton, Senior Librarian, School Library Network and Mrs. Sharnna Archat-Edmondson, Senior Librarian, Kingston and St. Andrew Parish Library Network

PROGRAMMES & SERVICES

National Reading Competition 2021

The 2021 season of the National Reading Competition (NRC) themed “**Stay Connected and Read**” was launched on April 8, 2021. The event was streamed live on the JLS’ Social Media



pages with a total of four hundred and forty-nine (449) viewers in attendance via Zoom, Instagram and YouTube. The National and Parish Champions for 2020 were announced at the event. LIAJA was also featured as one of the sponsors of the event and acknowledged for the continued support through contribution of trophy and cash award for the Best Letter in the 6-8 age category.

The 2021 Competition concluded with over 1,000 competitors registering online for participation. This represents a 40% increase in participation when compared to 2020 when the competition was first impacted by the Covid -19 pandemic. The national champions and runners up will be announced in 2022.



Annual Summer Programme

The 2021 Annual Summer Programme was coordinated at select public libraries islandwide using a blended approach of face to face and online delivery methods under the theme ‘Stay Connected and Read’.

The Manchester and Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library Networks also partnered with the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) to sensitize participants of the importance of protecting the environment.

Observances

National Career Week 2021

The Jamaica Library Service partnered with the Ministry of Education and Youth, Heart NSTA Trust and Junior Achievement Jamaica in observance of National Career Week from February 6 to 12, 2021 guided by the theme “*Executing the Vision through Career Development: I Think it, I can be.*” As part of the partnership the JLS coordinated activities which included the launch of a virtual exhibition and the mounting of physical exhibitions highlighting careers in Librarianship. The events featured over 600 participants online.

Salt Awareness Week 2021



In observance of Salt Awareness Week the JLS partnered with the Heart Foundation of Jamaica (HFJ) to execute a week of activities from March 8-12, 2021 under the theme ‘*More Flavour, Less Salt*’. The activities were aimed at highlighting the implications of excessive salt consumption and to educate the population about hypertension and hidden salts in processed foods. The activities were streamed live and made accessible via the JLS YouTube channel. Collectively the events generated two hundred and seventy (270) views.

Read Across Jamaica Day

The JLS observed Read Across Jamaica Day on May 4, 2021. Over 16 reading sessions to heighten awareness of the importance of reading were facilitated islandwide through online platforms such as Google classroom, Zoom, YouTube and WhatsApp, impacting over four hundred & forty-seven (447) students.

The Portland Parish Library Network hosted an event themed, *'Nurturing A Passion for Reading'* which was streamed live via the JLS Facebook and YouTube platforms. A highlight of the event was the participation and engagement of persons with disabilities including the hearing impaired. The entire event was translated by a Sign Language Translator. Four hundred and eighty-one (481) persons participated online.



10th Annual Marcus Mosiah Garvey Lecture

The St. Ann Parish Library collaborated with the St. Ann Homecoming & Heritage Foundation and UWI TV for the virtual staging of the 10th Annual Marcus Mosiah Garvey Lecture on June 11, 2021. The event was held to commemorate the 81st anniversary of the National Hero's death. The lecture titled "Marcus Garvey and the Black Lives Matter Movement in the 21st Century" was delivered by guest lecturer the Most Hon. P.J. Patterson, ON, OCC, PC, QC.

Library and Information Week 2021

In observance of Library and Information Week from October 31 – November 6, 2021, public libraries in the JLS mounted displays, hosted story hour sessions, tutorials and other activities under the theme "GLAM/R: Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access". Other activities hosted by libraries included:

- Hanover Parish Library Network – *'I Love My Library Video Competition'*
- Clarendon Parish Library Network- Virtual Debate Competition-*"The Role of Libraries in the Digital Age"*
- Westmoreland Parish Library Network- *'Shadow a Librarian for a day'*
- Portland Parish Library Network-Virtual Forum, *Libraries: Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access*



Visitors to the Trelawny Parish Library during Library and Information Week activities

The JLS also featured a message from the Director General and an advertorial highlighting its virtual services in the Library and Information Week Supplement published in the *Daily Gleaner* on November 4, 2021.

Ananse Soundsplash 2021 and National Storytelling Day - November 20, 2021



The JLS in partnership with NTUKUMA, the Storytelling Foundation of Jamaica, hosted the 9th staging of the Ananse Soundsplash Storytelling Conference & Festival held virtually from November 16 -21, 2021. National Storytelling Day was also observed virtually on Saturday, November 20, 2021 under the theme: *"Visiting with the Elders."* Local and international storytellers, shared stories virtually and select pre-recorded library features were aired. All events were streamed on the Jamaica Library Service YouTube and Facebook platforms and also broadcast on the Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica TV Channel.

The Art of Storytelling Workshop

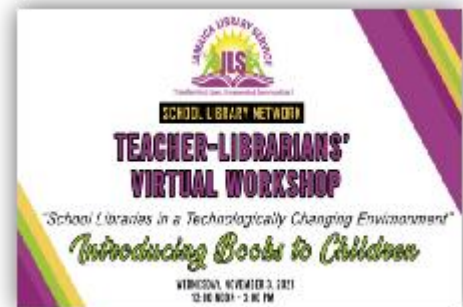
The JLS in partnership with Ntukuma hosted, two virtual workshops titled the Art of Storytelling on Friday, January 14, 2022 and Thursday, January 27, 2022 for paraprofessional staff. The objective of the workshop was to enable the staff to develop a greater level of appreciation for the art of storytelling and its importance to authentic and transformational culture. The sessions would also enable staff to better utilize the art form to support the delivery of other library programmes, events and activities including establishing storytelling clubs in schools and public libraries islandwide. A total of seventy-three (73) staff participated.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NETWORK

Teacher/Librarians' Seminars

The School Library Network hosted a series of virtual Teacher/Librarians' seminars under the theme *School Libraries in a Technologically Changing Environment*. The first seminar in the series was held on Wednesday July 7, 2021 with a main presentation titled 'Developing a Plan for ICT Implementation' delivered by Mr. Adrian Gilman, Acting Deputy Director, Database and Network. Nineteen (19) members of staff and thirty-seven (37) Teacher/Librarians from thirty-five (35) schools participated in the seminar.

As part of the JLS week of activities for **Library and Information Week**, the second seminar was held on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 with the main presentation titled 'Introducing Books to Children.' The topic was selected in recognition of reading being foundational to learning and to support teacher-librarians' in the education recovery efforts to combat the learning loss experienced by Jamaican students since the pandemic. The workshop included a panel discussion with four Children's Authors and a presentation titled "Benefits and Methods of Introducing Books to Children as well as some available Online Resources". The four children's authors, namely Tanya Batson-Savage, Jean Hawthorne DaCosta, Diane Browne and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson, engaged the participants on the importance of reading and motivating children to read; shared samples of their work in exposing children to books in a fun way and shared insights on what inspired them to write for children. Twelve (12) members of staff and forty-five (45) teacher-librarians participated.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP

Annual Conference

The 49th Annual Conference of the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) in Denton, Texas, United States of America was hosted virtually from July 12 – 16, 2021. This staging also marked the 24th International Forum of Research on School Librarianship. Eight (8) representatives from the JLS, comprising the Director General, Senior Director, Director, School Library Network, five Regional Directors and a Senior Librarian attended the conference.

The 2021 theme "A Rich Tapestry of Practice and Research around the World" permeated the presentations which provided several insights that continue to resonate with the JLS attendees. The author keynote presentations were also a highlight and provided a vivid reminder (supplemented by several references to current research) of the power of reading to engage and support individuals and communities. The conference focused on international trends and innovations in school librarianship as well as first-hand research on multiple literacies, learning challenges, bibliotherapy and open schooling.

The presenters from countries in North America, Europe, Africa, Australia and Asia demonstrated how school libraries across the world have assisted with bridging the gap resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic by focusing on engaging students creatively through the use of books, digital tools, collaboration and fostering a sense of community.

IASL Newsletter

The Jamaica Library Service was featured in the **January 2022 International Association of School Librarianship Newsletter** in an article titled 'Jamaica Library Service – Weaving Threads of Insight from the 2021 IASL Annual Conference' which highlighted the Teacher Librarian's Seminar held in November 2021 on Introducing Books to Children.

BOOK DONATIONS

The JLS was the recipient of several book donations during the period including the following:

- Two hundred (200) copies of the title ***Ferncourt High School 1938-2018: A Story of Enterprise, Access and Opportunity*** donated by author Professor Vivienne Roberts. The handing over was done by Dr. Cherrell Shelley Robinson on the author's behalf, at the Jamaica Library Service Headquarters on October 21, 2001.
- Thirty-three (33) volumes of books donated to the Clarendon Parish Library Network by the High Commission of India, Kingston, Jamaica on the occasion of the 152nd anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Ghandi.
- Two hundred and forty (240) copies of the title ***Mayer Matalon: Business, Politics and the Jewish-Jamaican Elite*** by Diana Thorborn, to be distributed to the thirteen parish library networks islandwide. The handover to the Director General was done by Mr. Joseph Matalon on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.



National Library of Jamaica

Submitted by: Chantelle Richardson, NLJ Representative

The following report highlights activities for the period January 4, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Flexible Work Arrangements - The NLJ drafted a Flexible Work Policy in November 2020 which came into effect January 2021. This policy was created in response to the government COVID19 work from home order as well as to facilitate a work-life balance. It outlines the criteria and conditions for working from and acts as the official for the dual working environment



Flyer advertising Health Fair

NLJ Health Fair – This was held on July 15, 2021. Complementary and paid services were offered to NLJ team members by Sagikor.

New JAMLIN Development Manager - Ms. Tracey-Ann Ricketts has been seconded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Ms. Chantelle Richardson will act as the Manager for the Jamaica Libraries and Information Network (JAMLIN) and LIAJA representative for NLJ while Ms. Ricketts is on secondment.

Staff Culture Day - This was held on July 30, 2021, under the theme “Out of many Friday”. There were performances from staff as well as a guest performance by the singer Kevaughn Scott aka DB, runner up in the 2021 JCDC Festival song competition.

NLJ at IFLA - Librarians Ms. Sharlett Thomas, and Ms. Tasheka Parks received grants to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) August 17-19, 2021. The National Librarian also attended.

NLJ Motivational series. These were held under the theme Embracing Change:

- Your Emotional Wellbeing – This session was held on Friday, September 17, 2021, and featured a presentation from Dr. Winston De La Haye, Consultant Psychiatrist.
- Your Financial Wellbeing – This was held on Friday, September 24, 2021, and featured a presentation from Mr. Michael Collins, Sales Development Specialist at Jamaica National as well as other representatives from JN. Additionally, two (2) JN sales representatives were onsite to assist staff. There was also an acknowledgment of International Week for the Deaf throughout the presentations.
- Your Spiritual Wellbeing - This was held on Friday, October 1, 2021, and featured a presentation from Reverend Canon Michael Allen, NLJ Board member.
- Your Physical Wellbeing – This was held on Friday, October 8, 2021, and featured a presentation from Robert Donaldson, Regional Physical Activity Specialist, Southeast Regional Health Authority.

All sessions had Mr. Denque Wedderburn, Sign language interpreter, facilitating deaf team member Christopher Valentine.

National Libraries Now (NLN) Digital Conference - The conference was held on September 16 and September 17, 2021. NLJ Team members who participated included: Tricia Lawrence Powell who chaired panel 7 - Managing in the Pandemic. Chantal Cousins, Tasheka Parks, and Tracey-Ann Ricketts were panelists and facilitated discussion on their video presentation entitled “*Chronicling COVID-19 for Posterity: The Jamaican Experience*”. The panelist also included representatives from the National Library of South Africa, National Library of Jamaica, and Archives of Islamic Republic Iran.

There were also presentations from team members Nicole Prawl and David Mohammed who presented in *panel 19 - Spotlight: Preservation and Conservation. Their video*

presentation was entitled "Picture Mi Dis: The Conservation for the West India Regiment Album: 1795-1927". Other panelists included representatives from the British Library, the National Library of the Republic of Moldova, and the German National Library.

Team member Chantelle Richardson served on the NLN organizing committee for the period March to September 2021.

Mrs. Tricia Powell elected to OCLC Americas Regional Council (ARC) 2021 - 2024

Mrs. Tricia Lawrence Powell, Director of User Services and Conservation, NLJ has been elected as an OCLC Americas Regional Council (ARC) delegate for three years commencing November 1, 2021 and ending October 31, 2024. OCLC represents one of the world's greatest, largest, and most impactful memory bank. OCLC has created a platform for Jamaica and the rest of the world with an opportunity to delimit its reach through the sharing of bibliographic data, collaborating and managing knowledge within a unified space. Mrs. Powell role is to advocate for OCLC, connect OCLC with global libraries, represent members' interest and concerns, champion library research and cooperation and participate in OCLC governance. She aims to reposition Jamaica's legacies for access beyond bits and bytes, towards a path where posterity of history and heritage can be realized for generations to come.

Library & Information Professional Day – This was recognized on November 4, 2021, and all Library and Information Professionals were treated.

International Men's Day – Dr. Leahcim Semaj was the guest speaker and he presented on the theme "Saving our Boys & Men -Saving our Families" on November 19, 2021. The NLJ's male team members were gifted with tokens and a short surprise event.

NLJ End of Year Function - This was held on December 17, 2021. The event saw team members participating in various social activities.



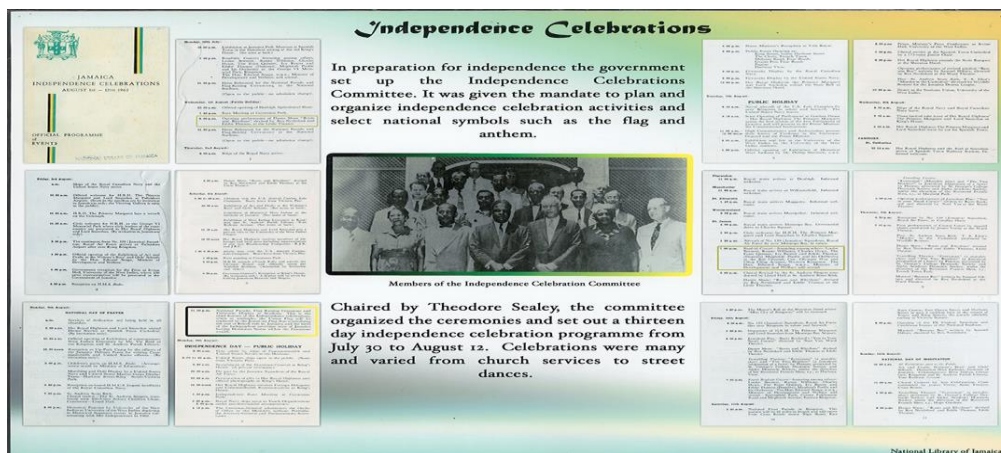
NLJ Team members at End of Yea Function

SERVICE DELIVERY

Research and Information - The NLJ reopened to the public on January 4, 2021, on a phased basis through an appointment system. The necessary measures were put in place based on the Ministry of Health and Wellness guidelines. The appointment system was utilized throughout the year.

Exhibitions

- Reggae Month Exhibition
- Emancipation and Independence virtual exhibition



Excerpt from Emancipation and Independence virtual exhibition

- Virtual Exhibition entitled Dennis Brown: A Timeless Livity launched in February 2021 (<https://nlj.gov.jm/exhibition/>)

- Jamaica Defence Force Air Wing's 58th anniversary celebration under the theme "Oling sinting come back again", on July 1, 2021



Member of the Jamaica Defence Force Airwing attempting to "Solve di Proverb"



Ms. Chantelle Richardson, Librarian, Special Collection at the Exhibition Booth

- The history and significance of Emancipation Day (date and its observance) at Television Jamaica (TVJ) studios. The NLJ was represented by Mrs. Tricia Lawrence Powell, Director User Services and Conservation on August 2, 2021
- Online exhibition for "Jamaica 59 Towards independence: Jamaica 59 come mek we celebrate online" launched on August 5, 2021

Collection Development - A total of **410** legal deposits and **1,666** donations for the period January to December 2021. A selection of deposits and donations that were received throughout the year:

Legal Deposits

- Pandemic Poems: First wave
- Sickle Cell Jamaica and Beyond: A Life
- My Beautiful Hair
- Rough Riding: Tanya Stephens and the power of music to transform society
- Far from Mecca: Globalizing the Muslim Caribbean

Donations

- Bishop Alfred Reid Collection
- D.K Duncan Collection
- Lions Club of Kingston Collection

- Book - Shaping a servant leader by Professor Neville Ying
- Book - Sickle Cell: Jamaica and Beyond by Professor Graham Serjeant
- Book - “Life lessons devotional and Journal: A 14-day journey” by Sophia Campbell



Keisha Myers, Manager, Collections Development accepts legal deposit of the book “How Do You Use Those DARN CHOPSTICKS?! from T.A Hyman. Looking on is the National Librarian, Beverley Lashley.



National Librarian, Beverley Lashley, Author Professor Neville Ying, and Manager, Collections Development, Keisha Myers, reviews Prof. Ying’s publication, “Shaping a Servant Leader”

Koha Support - The Koha Support Team along with the Manager, JAMLIN Development continue to promote Koha through various training sessions. The following were conducted for the period:

1. March 5, 2021 - Online Workshops for School Librarians - “School Librarians on the Information Superhighway” – Acquiring Koha
2. March 24, 2021 - PIOJ Library Electronic Resources Exposition
3. March 25, 2021 - Demo of Koha for Dairy Springs
4. May 18 – 19, 2021 - Koha Training with Dairy Springs
5. May 21, 2021 - Koha Training with Camperdown High School
6. July 22 – 23, 2021 - The Cedar Grove Academy
7. August 17, 2021 - Jamaica Information Service
8. December 2-3, 2021 – Shortwood Teacher’s College
9. December 15-16, 2021 – Portmore Community College

Special Programmes & Marketing

Poet Laureate - The Investiture Ceremony for the Poet Laureate of Jamaica 2021 – 2024 was held at Kings House on March 17, 2021; hosted by the Governor General, His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen. The newly appointed Poet Laureate of Jamaica, Olive Senior, will be promoting environmental awareness with poetry. Her three-year tenure will be executed under the slogan “*I See My Land.*” The Poet Laureate is tasked with engaging the wider populous in the reading and writing of poetry in all forms and in all spheres of society.

This event was streamed live on YouTube. Among the participants were the Governor General, Sir Patrick Allen; Ministers Grange and Terrelonge from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport; Chairman of NLJ’s Board of Management Ms. Joy Douglas and the National Librarian, Beverley Lashley.

The following are activities which the Poet Laureate participated in throughout the year:

- Featured guest on PALAV with Gerry McDaniel on Radio Jamaica 94 FM on April 18, 2021.
- Published an Emancipation Poem on August 1, 2021
- Jamaica Poetry Festival held on August 8, 2021
- Listed as Number 1 by The Guardian UK in a list of top 10 short stories on September 25, 2021
- Keynote presenter at the Abeng Book Club of North America on September 25, 2021.
- Keynote presenter at the Rex Nettleford Arts Conference under the theme “Decolonizing the Spirit” on October 6, 2021
- NLJ National Storytelling under the theme “Still Story Time: Cultural Retention and Renewal on Friday, November 19, 2021

World Poetry Day -This function was held on Sunday, March 21, 2021. Among the attendees were: State Minister Alando Terrelonge, MP; as well as representatives from UNESCO and the Venezuelan Embassy. The function was streamed, and the recording can be accessed on NLJ’s website.

Distinguished Lecture Series -This function was held on March 25, 2021, in partnership with the Organisation of American States (OAS) and the UWI TV under the theme “*Ending*

Slavery's Legacy of Racism – The Imperative for Strengthening Justice and Resilience in Afro-Descendant Communities in the Americas in the Face of COVID-19". The speakers were: The Most Honourable PJ Patterson; The Honourable Olivia Grange; Mr. Bert Samuels, who was the Keynote Speaker and Poet Laureate of Jamaica, Ms. Olive Senior.

World Book and Copyright Day – This was celebrated on April 23, 2021. A video was created and uploaded on NLJ's YouTube channel.

International Reggae Day – On July 1, 2021, the NLJ launched its [Reggae portal](#). In celebration of International Reggae Day.

Publication. The NLJ article entitled "Coping with Covid-19: The case of the National Library of Jamaica" was published in the Alexandria Journal. See full reference: Coping with Covid-19: The case of the National Library of Jamaica. *Alexandria*. February 2021. doi:[10.1177/0955749020984937](https://doi.org/10.1177/0955749020984937)

EVENTS

JAMLIN Workshop: Cataloguing & Classification for Information Professionals – This was held virtually on July 27, 2021. A total of 97 persons from across JAMLIN were in attendance. The workshop was facilitated by Maxine Jones, Manager, Cataloguing and Classification who presented on Cataloguing E-resources using RDA.

Miss Lou Birthday Celebrations - NLJ used social media to highlight the 102nd birthday of Jamaica's cultural icon, Miss Lou. A message from Minister Grange, videos of Miss Lou performing as well as Joan Andrea Hutchinson paying tribute and online exhibition were used to mark the celebration on September 7th.

Launch of Legal Deposit Month- This was held on Monday, October 11, 2021, under the theme 'Rise Creatives'. The full recording of the event can be viewed on the [NLJ YouTube page](#)

Library and Information Week 2021 - The Library and Information Week was celebrated under the theme "GLAM/R: Adapting to Changes and Expanding Access". The NLJ was featured in the special Gleaner Supplement, on November 4, 2021. The feature included a message from Beverley Lashley, National Librarian, and spotlight on NLJ staff members Keisha Myers, Manager, Collection Development, Tricia Lawrence – Powell, Director of User Services & Conservation and Chantelle Richardson, Manager JAMLIN Development (Acting). Online and Legal Deposit services were also highlighted.

JAMLIN Webinar – This was held during Library and Information week, on Thursday, November 4, 2021. Attendees saw recorded and pre-recorded presentations from local, regional, and international presenters under the theme, **“Embracing Change, Expanding Access: Digital preservation in Information Units”**. There were three-panel sessions throughout the webinar. Discussions centered around three subthemes “International and Regional Perspectives on Digital Preservation, Policies and Frameworks”, Digital Preservation Management and Accessing Digital Resources”. Some of the presenters included: Stephen Wyber, Manager of Policy and Advocacy IFLA; Michael Day, Digital Preservation Research Lead, British Library; Dr. Stanley H. Griffin, Deputy Dean, Lecturer University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona campus and Secretary of the Caribbean (CARBICA); Dr. Maurice McNaughton, Director, Centre for Innovation, Mona School of Business and Management, UWI (MSBM) ; Damien Satterthwaite, EBSCO, Regional Manager- Caribbean and NLJ Team members Janielle Wilson-Rowe, Manager Digital Resources Management; Desaray Pivot-Nolan, Manager, Audio-visual & Micrographics and Maxine Jones.



JAMLIN Webinar Flyer



Participants from the Webinar

Jamaican Storytelling – This was celebrated under the theme **"Still Storytime: Cultural Retention & Renewal"** on November 19, 2021.

Mary Seacole Day – This was marked by a Floral tribute in front of the NLJ and proclaimed by the Governor General on November 23, 2021. Partners of this event was the NLJ, Institute of Jamaica and the Mary Seacole Foundation.

Reports from Associations

Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL)

Submitted by: Mark-Jeffery Deans on behalf of Nicholas Graham, ACURIL Executive Council Representative-LIAJA



I am proud to report that Mr. David Drysdale will become ACURIL President in June 2022 at the annual conference in Curacao. This will be the 51st ACURIL Conference, running from June 5 to 9, 2022 in Curacao under the leadership of the President of ACURIL (2020-2022), Dr. Jeannette Lebron-Ramos. The theme will be "Change Management and Resilience: Proactive Actions in Libraries, Museums and Archives".

In June 2023 Jamaica will have the opportunity to host another ACURIL conference, under the leadership of Mr. Drysdale. Of course, the responsibility for spearheading this will fall on the Association. *LIAJA will need all "hands on deck" and the full backing and support of all individual and institutional member librarians to begin the task of planning for ACURIL 2023.*

International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)

Submitted by: Dr Paulette Stewart, IASL Representative



The 49th Annual Conference of the International Association of School Librarianship and the 24th International Forum on Research on School Librarianship was held online on 12-16 July 2021, under the theme ***"A Rich Tapestry of Practice and Research around the World."*** Three students and two members of staff from the DLIS attending the Conference. Dr. Paulette Stewart and Mr. Mark-Jeffery Deans presented their research paper, titled *Commonwealth Caribbean Disability Access Policies*.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

Submitted by: Mark-Jeffery Deans, President, LIAJA



The Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) maintains its relationship with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. This involvement is done mainly through the Advocacy Sub-Committee, chaired by Mrs Adele Merrit Bernard. Dialogue continues with Mr. Stephen Wyber, Manager, Policy and Advocacy, IFLA.

Including issues of:

- ✚ Reforming Jamaica’s copyright law to facilitate access to accessible-format works for people with print disabilities (in line with the Marrakesh Treaty);
- ✚ Jamaica’s plan to undertake a Voluntary National Review of its implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2022; and to support IFLA’s work in strengthening capacity to speak up for libraries everywhere by participating in the IFLA Survey on Regional Advocacy Priorities.
- ✚ Updating the information related to libraries in Jamaica, on IFLA’s Libraries of the World Campaign.

I must highlight work done by Mrs. Odean Cole-Phoenix, Technical Information Manager and Coordinator, GLINJA, PIOJ and member of LIAJA’s Board of Directors. She was invited by IFLA to do a joint interview on “Partnering for development: a joint interview between Jamaica’s SDG focal point and libraries” The full documentation of the interview was published on the January 31, 2022 and can be found on the IFLA’s website.

Conclusion

Colleagues, it has been a tremendous and fulfilling opportunity to have served you as president of this noble Association for the last two years. Collectively, our resilience, and commitment to library and information work in Jamaica and dedication to this Association and by extension the profession is overwhelmingly commendable.

I am most grateful for the hard work and dedication of the 2021 Executive team and their aptitude and relentless efforts in seeking to accomplish LIAJA's stated aims and objectives.

I am equally grateful for the support and confidence, you the members of the Association entrusted us with and look forward to the continued progression of LIAJA.

Appendix A: LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

Strategy	Goal(s)	Action Steps	Responsible committee/working party	Timeline/resources
New Member Acquisition	<p>There are six (6) categories of paid membership offered by LIAJA. Each has potential to generate significant revenue for the Association.</p> <p>1. There are over 280 MDA's within GoJ.</p> <p>Possible revenue 280 @ \$5,000.00= \$1,400,000.00 upwards for institutional members.</p> <p>2. Associate membership should include those professions that are aligned with LIAJA's mandate.</p> <p>Possible revenue 50 @ \$1,500.00= \$75,000.00 upwards</p> <p>3. Considerations for Corresponding membership should include university alumni from neighbouring Caribbean Islands.</p> <p>4. Full membership should engage library and information science professionals in law firms, doctor's offices, pharmacies etc.</p> <p>Possible revenue 20 @ \$2,500.00= \$50,000.00 upwards</p> <p>5. Retired members have a wealth of knowledge to share. There should be a retired member present on each committee/working party.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ascertain the name and contact information for the Corporate Affairs Directors/ Senior Directors in each MDA, private entity and educational institutions. Execute direct mail campaign to prospects from all categories of membership. For MDAs, send to head of information unit and senior management private entity and educational institutions. Each executive member should aim to recruit 5 new members (105). Recruit during seminar, workshops, and general meetings. 	<p>Membership and Conditions of Service</p> <p>Executive Committee</p>	<p>January to March 2022/no cost attached</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Email service, telephone and personnel.</p>

The cost to execute the revenue measures were not included

LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

Strategy	Goal(s)	Action Steps	Responsible committee/working party	Timeline/resources
	<p>Possible revenue 20 @ \$1,000.00= \$20,000.00 upwards</p> <p>6. Student membership is crucial to furthering LIAJA's efforts. These members are potential candidates for the other categories of membership. LIAJA should aim to gain student membership from all institutions with a library and information science programme.</p> <p>Possible revenue 100 @ \$600.00= \$60,000.00 upwards</p>			
Membership renewal	<p>There are 90 Registered members of the Association. Membership dues are collected from different category of member.</p> <p>Revenue as at November 25, 2021 -\$5,297 YTD</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact all registered members from the previous year who have not renewed their membership and encourage them to do so. 2. Execute direct mail campaign to prospects from all categories of membership. For MDAs, send to head of information unit and senior management private entity and educational institutions. Send for three (3) consecutive months. 3. Call unrenewed members, soliciting renewal. 	Membership and Conditions of Service	<p>January to March 2022</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Email service, telephone and personnel.</p>

The cost to execute the revenue measures were not included

LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

Strategy	Goal(s)	Action Steps	Responsible committee/working party	Timeline/resources
Special Appeals	<p>Solicit the assistance of corporate Jamaica. Target three (3) private sector entities for assistance in cash or kind.</p> <p>Targeted private entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grace Kennedy Foundation b. Flow Foundation c. Kingston bookshop 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire the names and contact information for the Public Relations/Marketing manager. Prepare a draft sponsorship letter and submit to President Deans for approval. Send sponsorship letter, build relationship & follow up. 	a combined effort of the fundraising and public relations working party.	January to March 2022
Special Events	<p>Cake sale in aid of fundraising:</p> <p>Possible revenue 200 @ \$1,000.00 = \$200,000.00</p> <p>Hold a raffle to generate funds:</p> <p>Possible revenue 200 ticket @ \$500.00 = \$100,000.00</p> <p>Library and Information professional competition:</p> <p>Possible revenue 50 participants @ \$5,000.00= \$250,000.00</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a cake sale in aid of raising funds for revenue. Sell 2,00 tickets @\$1,000.00 each. Hold a raffle which will generate money and recruit members. Sell 200 tickets @\$500.00 each. Revenue from membership will be used to purchase prize or a prize will be donated from a sponsor. Coordinate debate and/or quiz event, which will generate money, educate the public and recruit members. Each entity/group pays \$5,000 to enter, with a maximum of five (5) members to each team and a minimum three (3) members. With 50 entrants @\$5,000.00 each. 	<p>Education and Training working party</p> <p>Executive committee</p>	<p>Preliminary rounds May-June 2022</p> <p>Finally July 2022</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Cake sale Funds to purchase cakes and other items e.g., bottled water, cookies, boxes, forks etc.</p> <p>Raffle Funds to procure/print raffle ticket tickets/stubs and prize.</p> <p>LIS competition Venue, gifts/tokens, refreshments etc.</p>

The cost to execute the revenue measures were not included

LIAJA Fundraising Strategic Plan 2021-2022

Strategy	Goal(s)	Action Steps	Responsible committee/working party	Timeline/resources
		4. Contact JIS, PBCJ and JNN for coverage for wider reach.		
Development of Members	<p>Provide members with three (3) free seminars/workshops per year.</p> <p>Conduct at least three (3) training sessions per year.</p> <p>Potential revenue 210 participants @ \$2,500.00= \$525,000.00 upwards</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct needs survey to gather training needs of members and general LIS professionals. 2. Research appropriate facilitators to conduct training. Select industry professionals who are able to train participants adequately. 3. for members and general LIS professionals. 4. Coordinate three (3) free training sessions for LIAJA members and members of the Caribbean Diaspora three (3) times per year. The cost for facilitation will be absorbed by LIAJA. 5. Coordinate three (3) free training sessions for LIAJA members and members of the Caribbean 	<p>Education and Training working party</p> <p>Executive committee</p>	<p>At least two (2) training sessions per quarter.</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Facilitators, venue, refreshments, certificates etc.</p>

The cost to execute the revenue measures were not included

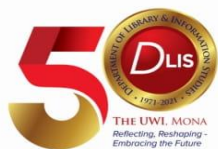
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THE DEPARTMENT OF
LIBRARY AND
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CELEBRATE

the contributions,
challenges, and triumphs
Libraries and librarians have
made over the last 50 years
in the Caribbean.



REFLECT

on the impact technology, ICT,
social media and the rising digital
culture is having on the cultural
and customary ways information is
being created, used, published and
preserved in the Caribbean.



DREAM

new visions for a truly
Caribbean-oriented,
research-driven, technology-
inclusive Caribbean
"Library/Information School".

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