

## EDUCATION CITY LIBRARY DIRECTORS COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September

**Present:** S.C. Kumaresan (ABP), Bijan Esfahani (CMU-Q), Joan de Beer (CL), Frieda Wiebe (GUSFS-Q), Beverley Stubbs (QA), Mohamed Mubarak – for Aisha Al Kelaifi (QFIS), Carol Hansen (VCUQatar), Ellen Sayed (WCMC-Q), Adam Cath (TAMUQ), Gill Westera (NU-Q)  
Sally Birch (WCMC-Q) – for training workshop

**Regrets:** Kathy Grant (Qatar Music Academy), Tracy Havlin (Sidra), Chris Bell (TLCS)

### Minutes

#### Introductions

Introductions included interesting information about approximate student numbers so these are included below:

ABP	300
CMU-Q	400
GUSFS-Q	200 (73 freshmen!)
NU-Q	160
QA	1600
QFIS	200
TAMU-Q	400
VCUQatar	200
WCMC-Q	260

#### SLA-AGC conference 2013 in Qatar – Mohamed Mubarak

Mohamed is the President Elect of the SLA Arabian Gulf Chapter. Mohamed provided us with an overview of the SLA and talked about the conferences. The 18<sup>th</sup> conference will be held in Bahrain from 12-14 March 2012.

Qatar University hosted our previous two conferences in Doha (2000, 2008) and the SLA committee is looking for help for the next conference. Options of support could include hosting, sponsorship of a speaker or sponsorship of a workshop.

It was highlighted that while universities might be willing to host, unfortunately with the space constrictions it is likely not feasible during semester times. Need a space for exhibition plus approximately 500-600 delegates. It was also highlighted that any QF event must use QF facilities though Kumar thinks that there are ways to get exceptions (ie when not a QF exclusive event).

The SLA conference in Qatar will use an event organizer. Speakers will be decided by the local organizers.

Mohamad would like to know before April 2012 if we're interested in helping with the conference in any way.

Someone from the ECLDC committee will be invited to SLA in Bahrain (funded by the SLA). Workshops being run include: ebooks, mobile technology in libraries, open access and scholarly education.

**Action:** self-nominate by emailing Mohamed

### New Vice Chair

The role of the vice chair is to fill in for the chair when not available and to organize the two SIG events in the year.

Ellen generously volunteered!

### Training Activity/Event

Sally Birch talked about a workshop she and a group of librarians have been working on: Jacqueline Williams, Amani Majid, Carol Ann Nonino and Sally.

They will offer a workshop on teaching techniques in four areas:

1. multimedia – Sally
2. props – Amani
3. games – Carol Ann
4. co-operative learning – Jacqueline

The workshop will be on **October 18<sup>th</sup> 10-11.30am at GSFS-Q.**

People will “meet and greet”, break into four groups (randomly selected on arrival), the workshop will be 45 minutes, and then the larger group meets and each group shares outcomes with all.

Thanks to Sally, Jacqueline, Amani and Carol Ann for coming up with this!

It was agreed that we should form a PD committee to plan for the Spring event.

**Action:** Ellen to put out a call for interested people to form a PD committee

In relation to activities, the Qlib list was discussed as an important mechanism for disseminating information about activities. Since there are a number of new people now in Qatar, it was agreed that joining the listserv information would be sent round to ECLDC to forward on to their staff.

**Action:** Gill to send the qlib listserv joining information to ECLDC. (postnote: thanks to Adam for doing this first)

### Change in public patron policy at GSFS-Q

Frieda talked about the new public patron policy at Georgetown. Georgetown will join anyone up as a community member. People pay a refundable deposit of 600QAR for 6 books (or 200 for 2 books). The service is not being advertized and when people from other educational institutions do ask, the EC ILLs service is highlighted first.

The biggest concern in this approach is that the other libraries don't get patron borrowing information.

**Action:** people to let Frieda know if any problems arise from Georgetown's public patron policy.

### Disaster Planning

Gill asked whether any of the libraries have a disaster plan in place. While most (all?) have campus-wide plans in place, only a few have specific library plans:

- TAMU-Q: a business continuity plan for both electronic and physical access to materials. Focus is mainly on getting access to electronic (small print collection). This is subsumed into the IT emergency plan. Staff also have thumb drives of Voyager circulation offline software. Adam said he'd share TAMU's plan
- GSFS-Q: included in the library-wide plan
- Central Library: identified as something for future planning.

- WCMC-Q: has NY online support.

#### Administration – where can we put meeting minutes?

Adam confirmed that these can still go on the TAMU-Q portal.

#### Institutional reports

##### WCMC-Q

- Vice Dean of Admin leaving in 2012 (Ellen reports to this person)
- a new Dean has started in NY.
- a new shared position has been created: instruction design librarian – shared between Qatar and NY (residing in NY). This person will start in October.
- WCMC staff will be visiting in Jan/Feb and will hopefully meet the ECLDC. They're here for 4 days.
- the 4 year format is being re-formed in Cornell
- WCMC-Q Library is providing outreach to Aspetar (Sally goes there to provide support)

##### GSFS-Q

###### A) new staff

- new Dean starting October 1
- Donna Hansen is the new library associate director
- Susan Leister is the new technical services and systems librarian (starting Oct. 9) (the position vacated by Zoreh)

###### B) freshman reading program

- a freshmen reading program has been introduced. The students have a compulsory read: *The Pistachio Seller* by Reem Bassiouney. Workshops will be held. Extra copies of the book are in the library for others interested in reading it. The author will be visiting on the evening of October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

###### C) new student orientation

- all did the Madison test for information literacy assessment. The library is now analysing the results. The aim is to repeat the test again in the junior or senior year.

###### D) IUG users' group meeting

Georgetown will be hosting this on 30-31<sup>st</sup> October.

- E) The bioethics research project is in its final year with the grant funding concluding in August 2012. The aim was for the database to be maintained after project completion, however, details of how this will occur are yet to be determined.

#### Central Library

##### Staffing:

- the director's search is still on. New names are being considered.
- Donna Hansen, Carolyn Young and Amrita McKinney have left/are leaving
- new people in are: Carol Mitchell (2<sup>nd</sup> October), one has already joined, Rowena Gerente and CL is in the process of hiring Rency Thomas, who has been in a temporary position.
- The Heritage Library (HL) is now part of the CL and all the HL positions fit within CL staff plan. Mr. Mohammed Hammam is not on the staff of the CL but is in a new position as cultural adviser to HHO and QF. The heritage collection will stay where it is until further notice.
- the Huron consultants who met with a number of EC librarians have submitted their report to Dr. Abdulla.
- Central Library has moved to Office Block 5. The previous premises, the villa has been demolished.
- there is a kick-off meeting for the new building today. The building should be completed by 2014.
- The QF British Library Gulf History digital project is continuing well.

- CL has made some acquisitions progress and may soon be able to offer access to subscription databases.

#### NU-Q

- a new Dean (Everette Dennis) started in June
- the library is short-staffed as the public services librarian has been frozen while a staffing review takes place
- NU-Q is doing a "one book" project with students and everyone (including faculty/staff) has a copy of the book: *The Media Relations Department of Hizbollah Wishes You a Happy Birthday* by Neil Macfarquhar. Along with an author visit, a number of activities are being planned throughout the year.

#### CMU-Q

- CMU-Q still short staffed. Bijan thanked us for feedback on our librarian positions. This has hopefully helped in ensuring the long term vacant librarian position can be filled.
- there are three new courses on offer in biological sciences: Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts and one other bachelor course. There is no extra funding to support these courses.

#### TAMU-Q

- Carole and Dana have gone. A replacement for Dana will be recruited very soon. It is not clear what is happening with Carole's position. Angela is working as an interim public services librarian while Adam acts in Carole's position
- a Masters in Chemical Engineering has begun – 18 enrolled students
- an experimental teaching with iPads project has commenced – students from two courses are involved.

#### VCUQatar

##### Staffing:

- A new associate dean of academic affairs has started. Carol reports to this position
- Miriam is leaving. The librarian position will be advertised by the end of the week.
- Tammi Moe has been seconded to the QMA on an imaging project. VCU will be looking for a ½ time fill
- a library specialist public services position needs temporarily filling for Oct-Dec (paternity leave)
  
- a new art history course is being worked on
- the library has withdrawn 1000 VHS tapes (keeping only those that are not available in another format)
- information literacy is being formalised across the curriculum
- a library intranet is being created
- doing more with iPads and ebooks (Bijan talked about what they've been doing at CMU)
- a gaming lab is being set up in the library
- Carol attending the Venice Biennale from 18-24 October (as the painting and print-making dept. liaison librarian)

#### QFIS

- two new graduate programs have started: Islamic contemporary societies and Islamic architecture
- two modules of Innovative are in the process of being set up: encore synergy and media management

#### QA

- QA is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year

- going through accreditation
- all teachers are reading Powell, William, and Ochan Kusuma-Powell. *Making the Difference: Differentiated Instruction in International Schools*.  
and meeting for professional discussions
- started DEAR (drop everything and read) where students stop to read every Thursday for 20 minutes
- Beverley went to IASL in Jamaica and was handed the “baton” for the IASL conference in Doha in November 2012.
- Is there any interest in sponsoring the conference? Please let her know (she will email us - Beverley was congratulated on the School Libraries articles in the local papers  
<http://www.thepeninsulaqatar.com/qatar-sport/165579-doha-to-host-school-librarianship-conference.html>)

Next meeting

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 12pm at WCMC-Q

(thanks to Ellen and others who also volunteered previously)