



**INTERNATIONAL TALKS:
VISITING INTERNATIONAL LIBRARIANS #12**

14 December 2021

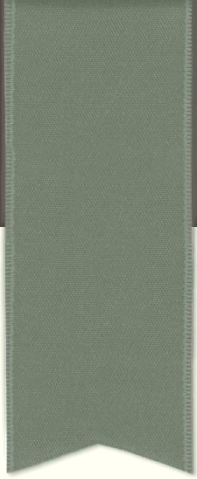
Library and Information Science
Education in Malaysia

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Who Am I?

- Nor Edzan Che Nasir (Ph.D.)
- 1983 – Librarian, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang.
- 1991 – Librarian, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.
- 1999 – Lecturer, Associate Professor and Deputy Dean (Postgraduate Studies), Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.
- 2007 – Chief Librarian, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.
- 28 May 2017 – Retired.
- Currently
 - Interim Secretary and Member, IFLA Asia-Oceania Regional Division
 - Member, IFLA Information Literacy Section
 - Member, Pahang State Library Board.



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1. THE BEGINNING

The Beginning

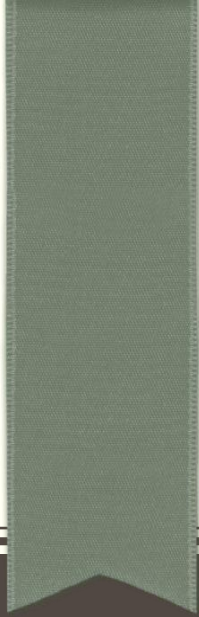
- Lim (1970) - traced the development of library education in Malaya to as early as 1955.
- 1955 - Malayan Library Group (MLG) formed = present day Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM).
- No formal library education programmes then.
- PPM held part time classes for candidates to prepare for the UK Library Association examinations.
- 1965 - PPM sent a memorandum to the University of Malaya (UM) asking for the creation of a library school at the university.
- 1967 - Higher Education Planning Committee (HEPC) Report revitalized the establishment of the school.
- 1968 - As a result of HEPC Report, the Institut teknologi MARA (ITM) introduced a professional course in librarianship leading to the British Associate of the Library Association examination and accreditation = ALA, UK

The Beginning

- 1969 - Southeast Asian Regional Branch, International Council of Archives (SARBICA) Conference on Archivology in Jakarta, both SARBICA and PPM agreed to the establishment of a postgraduate school of librarianship at UM.
- 1972 - Memorandum sent to the National Library Committee (NLC) with a recommendation for the establishment of the school at UM.
 - PPM - postgraduate school should be at UM it is a university should host such a program.
 - ITM was not a university then yet.
 - Course at ITM was not tailored to suit the local environment
- 1972 - ITM developed and introduced a new curriculum for a three-year course leading to the ITM diploma = Diploma, Bachelor, Master, PhD.
- 1987 - MLIS program offered for the first time by UM for the 1987/1988 session at the Institute of Advanced Studies. However, this course was suspended the following year.

The Beginning

- 1992 - International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM) introduced the MLIS at the Department of Library and Information Science = Master, PhD.
- 1994 - MLIS programme in UM was transferred to Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology = Master, PhD.
- 1995 - Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) - Master in Information Science.
- 1996 – Universiti Selangor (UniSel) – Diploma in Library Science programme = Diploma, Bachelor
- 1999 – Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) – Bachelor in Sunnah Studies with Information Management.



2. NOW

Librarians in Malaysian libraries

- Various types
 - National library – Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia
 - State libraries – Pustaka Sarawak
 - Public libraries – Petaling Jaya Community Library
 - Rural libraries – Perpustakaan Desa Kubu Gajah
 - Academic libraries – University of Malaya Library
 - Special libraries – Forest Research Institute Malaysia Library

Qualifications to be a Librarian

- Qualifications
 1. Diploma in library science
 2. Bachelor in library science
 3. Postgraduate diploma in library science
 4. Master in library science
- Bachelor in library science or Bachelor in other subject + (3) or (4)
 - For example : B.Sc. (Biology) + PGD or MLIS
- (3) and (4) - acquire locally or overseas.
- Library schools in Malaysia
 - 3 public universities
 - 1 private university
- Accreditation of programmes by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) using the Programme Standards for Information Science

Now

University	Undergraduate Programme	Postgraduate Programme
Universiti Industri Selangor (UNISEL) <i>Industrial University of Selangor</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diploma in Library Management ▪ Bachelor of Information Science (Library Management) (Hons.) 	
Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) <i>MARA University of Technology</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma in Library Management • Bachelor of Information Science (Hons.) (Library Management) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master in Library Science • Doctor of Philosophy (Information Management)
Universiti Malaya (UM) <i>University of Malaya</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master of Library and Information Science ▪ Doctor of Philosophy = Ph.D.
Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (UIAM) <i>International Islamic University Malaysia</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master of Library and Information Science ▪ Doctor of Philosophy (Library and Information Science) = DLIS



3. MQA

<https://www.mqa.gov.my/>



The Official Portal of
MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF MALAYSIA

SILA KLIK PAUTAN DI BAWAH UNTUK KOMUNIKASI YANG LEBIH CEPAT DAN PANTAS
PLEASE CLICK THE ICONS BELOW FOR A FASTER AND SPEEDY COMMUNICATION



Portal Rasmi MQA

The Official Portal Of MQA



MQA

- MQA established on 1 November 2007.
- Malaysian Qualifications Agency Act 2007.
- The main role - implement the Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF) as a basis for quality assurance of higher education and as the reference point for the criteria and standards for national qualifications.
- MQA= responsible for monitoring and overseeing the quality assurance practices and accreditation of national higher education.

Programme Standards for Information Science

PROGRAMME STANDARDS: INFORMATION SCIENCE

MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY

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The Standards Division
Malaysian Qualifications Agency

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MQA Requirements for Information Science

6 sub-disciplines for information science

- Information management
- **Library science**
- Records management
- Archival science
- Knowledge management
- Museum and heritage information management

12 common core for information science

- Epistemology of information science
- Information management and organisation
- Information/Knowledge organisation
- Information services
- Information preservation and conservation
- Information/Knowledge technologies
- Information security
- Legal aspect
- Ethics and professionalism
- Information entrepreneurship

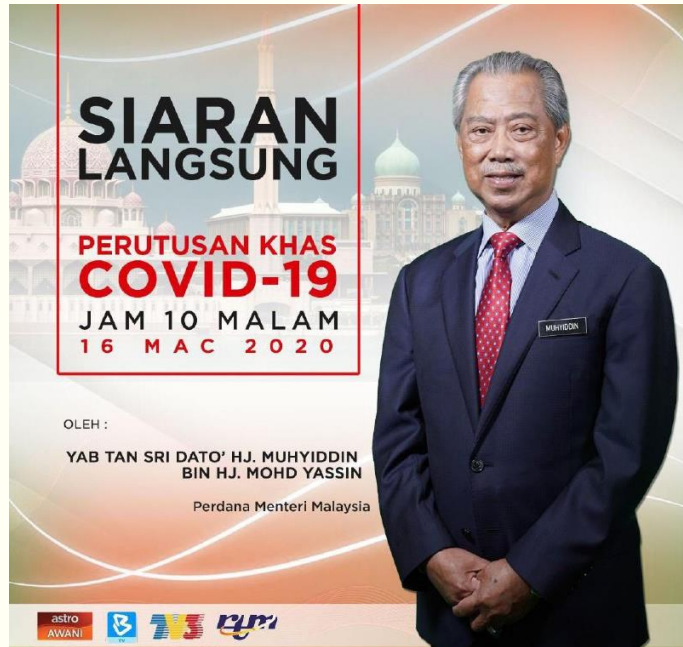
MQA Requirements for Information Science

- The subject coverage of Information Science centres
 - information management,
 - information retrieval, and
 - implementation of information technologies in libraries, archives, museums and other information agencies.
- Library Science
 - refers to procedures within a library and the management of the libraries dealing with identification, gathering, handling, storage, retrieval and dissemination of information resources. Library science is an interdisciplinary field that applies the practices, perspectives and tools of management, information technology, education and other areas related to libraries. It is concern with the collection, organisation, preservation of information resources and provision of information services, and the political economy of information. (ALA Standards Manual, 2003)



4. COVID-19 AND MALAYSIAN LIBRARIANS

Malaysia and the COVID-19 Pandemic



- 25 January 2020 – 1st case of coronavirus reported.
- 18 March 2020 – Malaysia placed under the Movement Control Order
 - Various types of MCO.
 - Various SOPs.
 - Closure of all types of libraries



- 16 June 2021 – Malaysia moved into the National Recovery Plan
 - 4 phases – statewise
 - Easing of SOPs.
 - Gradual reopening of libraries states go into Phases 3 and 4.

Malaysian Librarians and the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Libraries – shift from physical to online services.
- Huge amount of online activity especially use of social media.
 - Infographics to relay information
 - Youtube to conduct classes
 - Webinars – online classes and tutorials
- Were Malaysian librarians ready for the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Readiness of librarians
 - Skills and competencies – IT, communication. writing
 - Experience – more at ease with IT, doing well
 - Knowledge
 - Services and facilities
- How will this affect the library and information science education?

UiTM: MLS

Core Courses

1. Business Information Sources and Services
2. Digital Libraries and Multimedia Application
3. Dissertation Development and Research Methods
4. Information Searching and Retrieval
5. Information Systems Management and Evaluation in Libraries
6. Islamic Information Sources and Services
7. Legal Information Sources and Services
8. Organization of Knowledge
9. Measurement and Evaluation in Libraries
10. Medical Information Sources and Services
11. Principles and Practices in Library Administration
12. Resources and Collection Management
13. Seminar: Information, Libraries and Society
14. Seminar: Knowledge Management
15. Strategic Planning and Human Resource Management
16. User Needs and User Studies
Dissertation **OR** Research project in Library Science

Elective Courses

1. Fundamentals of Knowledge Management
2. Information Industry and Information
3. Entrepreneurship
4. Knowledge Management Strategies and Tools
5. Preservation of Organizational Memory
6. Records and Archives Management

IIUM: MLIS

Core Courses

1. Application of IT in Library
2. Information Analysis & Organizational I
3. Information Analysis & Organizational II
4. Information Sources & Services
5. Islamic Worldview, Society and IT
6. Management of Information Institutions
7. Research Methodology for IT
8. Dissertation
9. Fieldwork

Elective Courses

1. Bibliometrics
2. Conservation and Preservation of Information Resource
3. Database Design and Development
4. Digital Library
5. Indexing and Abstracting
6. Information Resources Development
7. Information Sources and Services in Islamic Revealed Knowledge
8. Information Storage & Retrieval
9. Management of Islamic Manuscripts Collection
10. Management of Official Publications
11. Measurement & Evaluation
12. Records and Archive Management
13. Web-Based Information Design and System

UM: MLIS

Core Courses

1. Organization of Information
2. Reference and Information Literacy Services
3. Research Methods in Library And Information Science
4. Technologies for Information Management
5. Dissertation

Elective Courses

- Bibliometrics and Scientific Publishing
- Development of Information Collection
- Digital Humanities
- Digital Libraries
- Indexing, Abstracting and Thesauri Construction
- Knowledge Management For Information Professionals
- Libraries, Information and Society
- Management of Library and Information Services
- Measurement and Evaluation of Library & Information Services
- Special Topics in Library & Information Science I
- Special Topics in Library & Information Science II
- Statistics for Library & Information Science Research
- User Needs and Behavior
- Web Publishing

Reviewing the Library and Information Science Curriculum

- Questions?
 - Is there a gap between the curriculum and librarians' skills needed now?
 - Yes? No? What now?
 - Need to review the LIS curriculum.
- What is needed now – reskill, upskill, unlearn, learn, relearn – a number of skills is now mandatory
 - Familiarity with various communication platforms.
 - Familiarity with various social media platforms including analysing the data.
 - Communication skills – speaking in both the national and English languages.
 - Improve writing skills for all forms of publications.
 - Keep abreast with technology.
 - Keep abreast with the literature.
 - Strengthen existing skills
 - Upgrade current skills
 - Acquire new skills
- LIS schools – must definitely review their curriculum and make changes to meet the needs of librarians for a “new normal” = at all levels = diploma, Bachelor, Master

Conclusion

- Library and information science education began as early as 1955.
- Effort by local library association.
- Governed by standards.
- COVID-19 pandemic
 - Changed ways in how libraries function.
 - Tested preparedness of librarians worldwide.
- LIS education
 - Has to review their curriculum for all levels.
 - Has to adapt and make necessary changes to the curriculum.
- New and existing librarians – continuous acquisition of knowledge and skills.

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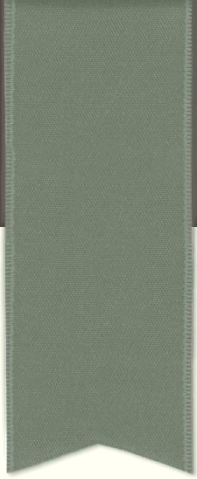
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THANK YOU

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