



by Gerald R. Brown

tiously to give a global reflection on a daily basis.

To keep current on the school library scene, check these items at the Web site: Site of the School Day; Current News; Updates; Anne's site of the week. In addition, under the heading: IASL's International Toolkit; Reviews; School Library Resources on the Internet one will find invaluable sources for personal information, to share with colleagues, or for mentoring purposes.

The Research in School Librarianship link connects one to the most recent research to support school librarianship. The annual Research Forum is an important way to keep up to date. Also, Features gives important documentation for the field. Funding opportunities in the area of action research are open to members in all countries. Check the Web site under Awards Programme for details.

With membership in IASL, one can access three other vehicles of information: the listserv, the newsletter, and the journal, School Libraries Worldwide. Each of these tools brings unique access to the membership and their activities on a global basis. IASL endeavors to support members in developing countries through its Support-A-Member or Support-An-Association options.

In this way, a developing country can be supported for up to three years through the voluntary contributions of the general membership.

Some provincial and national associations have adopted an association in a developing country for a three year period too. This has brought all the print resources to the new member.

Access to the materials in the previous three paragraphs makes it possible for instructors in Schools of Library & Information Studies and Education to keep in touch with international growth and change. If you would you like to help, contact the secretariat at <iasl@rockland.com> for details on how you can make your personal or group contribution.

IASL holds an annual conference. In 2004, it will be held in Dublin, Ireland. In 2005 it is scheduled for Hong Kong. Watch the Web site for details. IASL offers two scholarships and awards for individuals from developing countries to attend the conference. These people have been identified for their leadership potential. We can point with pride to the contributions these people have made after returning home.

The *IFLA / UNESCO Manifesto on School Libraries* has been translated into many different languages. It is forming the basis for many discussions at IASL seminars and conferences. IASL is moving now to organize seminars, and to produce materials that will help Ministries of Education move to the next stage of implementation of the *Manifesto* according to the needs of their countries.

Relations with Ministries of Education and National Libraries are the responsibility of by the Vice President of Association Relations. There is an active communication undertaken on a regular basis. The annual Communique provides grassroots reports on the state of school librarianship by country, around the world.

A number of Special Interest Groups are also available to carry on the discussion, and to share information on specific aspects of school librarianship. Members are encouraged to share their views on the listserv in this regard. Many individuals from developing countries use this forum once they get connected to the association.

Editor's note:
The *IFLA / UNESCO Manifesto on School Libraries* has been endorsed by IASL and other library associations around the world including the Ontario Library Association. The full text of the *Manifesto* is on the OLA web site. Click on *School Libraries* under *Issues* on the home page.