



Genesis of ASLIB

- Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (abbreviated as ASLIB) came into existence in 1924.
- In 1948, the British Society for International Bibliography was merged with the Association and a new organisation was formed in 1949 with the registered title of ASLIB.
- Currently, the organization is known as ASLIB- the association for information Management
- Although Primarily a British organization; unlike many other associations it has an international character- the membership being spread over about 70 countries.



Functions of ASLIB

- Organize an annual conference. Besides, it also arranges many national and branch meetings
- Organize courses on specialized aspects of library and information sciences
- Bring out publications
- Cooperate a number of organizations such as the Library Associations,
- the Institute of Information Scientists, and
- the Society of Archives



Information Services

- The information services would also be reorganized to offer a higher level of practical advice and information to its members.
- The new information resources centers, besides offering a basic referral service, would advise the members on practical issue of information management in the following key area:
 - • Online information retrieval methods and systems
 - • Library automation
 - • Networking including local area networks
 - • Software for library and information retrieval applications
 - • Modern library /information resources management.



ASLIB

- According to the new development plan adopted in 1985, ASLIB had decided to concentrate its efforts in three core business areas:
 - a) Membership services;
 - b) Publication; and
 - c) Professional development.
- There would be two major changes in its Research and consultancy Departments. It would withdraw from the research field by the end of 1986 and the consultancy service would operate as an independent unit in association with ASLIB.



ASLIB Publications

- (1) Creating an Information Services by Sylvis P. Webb (1985) which presents a step-by-step approach to the considerations and problems likely to be involved in setting up a library or information services in an organisations;
- (2) The Translator's Handbook edited by C. Picken (1984), which is considered as the best introduction to the translation profession that is available.



ASLIB Publications

- (a) Journal of Documentation (1945+)- a scholarly quarterly professional journal.
- (b) ASLIB proceedings (1949+)-monthly journal which publishes papers presented in ASLIB sponsored seminars and conferences.
- (c) Program-Automated Library and Information systems (1966+)-a quarterly journal.
- (d) ASLIB Newsletter (1973+)- a monthly newsletter, which reports ASLIB activities.
- (e) Current Awareness Bulletin (1984+)- a monthly review of information management literature.
- (f) Online Not- a monthly newsletter of ASLIB's On-line information centre.
- Net link (1984+)- a bimonthly journal dealing with local area network



Professional Development Programmes

- One of the major activities of ASLIB is to organize training programmes for both members and non-members.
- During 1985, it offered 21 programmes (the total number including repetitions is 37) covering wide variety of topics, e.g., Essential Skills in Library and Information work, use of computers (5 courses), Acquisition (2 courses), Information Sources (2 courses), Reference work, Universal Decimal Classification, Thesaurus Construction.



Specialist Groups

- ASLIB has eleven specialist groups and each of them organizes its own programmes:
- (1) Audiovisual, (2) Biological and Agricultural
- (3) Chemical, (4) Computer
- (5) Economic and Business Information
- (6) Electronics
- (7) Engineering
- (8) Informatics
- (9) One Man Bands
- (10) Social Sciences Information
- (11) Transport and Planning.



Specialist Groups

- The main objective of each specialist group is to provide opportunities to other members and share experience and knowledge.
- Each group, therefore, organises its own programme of meetings, visits, presentations, seminars and conferences of relevant and topical topics.
- The “visits” programme consists of guided tours and discussions at a variety of information centers and industries.
- The activities of each group are published in ASLIB Information. Some groups have also their own newsletters, e.g. AEBIG News is the newsletter of the Economic and business Information Group.



Conferences and Seminars

- ASLIB and its various specialist groups regularly organize conferences, seminars and professional meetings to discuss issues confronting the library and information specialists.
- ASLIB sponsored a significant conference of worldwide interest (Info B) held during 16-19 September 1986 jointly with the Library Association, Institute of Information Scientists, Society of Archivists, and the standing Conference of National and University Libraries.
- The Theme of the conference Info 85 was using knowledge to shape the future.
- The papers presented in the conferences and seminars are published in ASLIB proceedings.



ASLIB PUBLICATIONS

- ASLIB Information
- Journals of Documentation
- ASLIB Proceedings
- ASLIB Directory
- The Handbook of Special Librarianship



Conclusion

- ASLIB has been instrumental in highlighting the importance of information in all spheres of national activities particularly those relating to post-world war 2nd reconstruction of the national economy.
- It obtained the recognition of government as a research association.
- ASLIB paved the way for the creation of the office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) in the Department of Education and Science.
- Over a period, ASLIB has been providing a wide range of services to member organisations.



Conclusion

- ASLIB had made significant contribution to the library and information science literature both in respect of conventional library and information systems and services and advanced information technologies, e.g., ASLIB's Handbook of Special Librarianship and Information work (5th edition, 1985) is a widely used guide for the development of library and information services.



Thank You

