

مؤتمر دبي الدولي للمكتبات  
Dubai International Library Conference  
الدورة الأولى | First Edition

مكتبة محمد بن راشد، دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
Mohammed Bin Rashid Library, Dubai, UAE

17-15 نوفمبر 2024  
15-17 NOVEMBER 2024

FUTURE

المستقبل

PRESENT

الحاضر

PAST

الماضي

CONFERENCE CATALOGUE





*OUR LIBRARIES:*

**PAST**

**PRESENT**

**FUTURE**





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## ABOUT MOHAMMED BIN RASHID LIBRARY (MBRL)

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Library was founded to realise the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to build a knowledge-based society in Dubai and the UAE.

The Library aims to spark a passion for knowledge throughout UAE society, especially the youth, in addition to conserving and promoting Arabic

literature, culture, and heritage by supporting reading, research, creativity, and entrepreneurship. The library offers free access to a unique collection of books and other knowledge resources, in addition to providing high-quality information services and leading cultural events.

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Library includes nine thematic libraries: The General Library, the Young Adults Library, the Children's Library, the Media and Arts Library, the Business Library, the Emirates Library, the Periodicals Library, and the Private Collections Library.

The 7th floor of the library hosts "Treasures of the Library," a permanent exhibition which displays a fascinating collection of rare and old books, atlases, and manuscripts some of which date back to the 13th century. Moreover, the library houses a vast collection of digital, audio, and paper books in various languages.



# DUBAI INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE (DILC) 2024

## *Our Libraries: Past, Present, Future*

Under the slogan “Our Libraries: Past, Present, Future” the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation is proud to organize the inaugural edition of the Dubai International Library Conference 2024 (DILC 2024).

This prestigious event, scheduled from 15 to 17 November, is set to become a cornerstone on the international library conference circuit, celebrating the sharing of information and knowledge.

In its first edition, DILC 2024 will gather specialists, professionals, and experts in the library sector from around the globe. Participants will share insights, experiences, and the latest advancements in the field of library and information sciences.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Library is pleased to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Dubai International Library Conference 2024, the most significant international event in the library sector. The conference will serve as a leading platform and a key destination for experts and professionals in the field of libraries and information to exchange experiences and knowledge about the role of libraries in development, and contribute to forming visions and strategies that will keep pace with global changes in this vital sector.

Through the Dubai International Library Conference 2024, we seek to explore the diversity of knowledge in global libraries and learn about their unique specialisations, as well as discuss the latest technical innovations and modern challenges facing this field. We aim to build a bridge connecting generations and libraries, to combine the wisdom of the past with the passion of the present and the promise of the future.

**We wish you an enriching and inspiring experience!**

**His Excellency Mohammed Ahmed Al Murr**

Chairman of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation



## WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE SUPREME COMMITTEE

The Dubai International Library Conference 2024 marks a significant step towards enhancing global cooperation and presenting innovative visions that contribute to shaping a bright future for the libraries as museums of the future. This reinforces Dubai's role as a beacon of knowledge, culture, and innovation, in line with the UAE's leadership in the region's knowledge and cultural renaissance.

The conference will be attended by more than 60 speakers from more than 25 countries, and will host over 45 panel discussions and workshops covering a range of topics. This includes: The role of Artificial Intelligence in transforming libraries, Iconic libraries and their treasures, Special library collections, The importance of rare manuscripts, The future of libraries, Libraries in the era of digital transformation, History of calligraphy, The importance of including children's literature in public libraries, Sustainable printing, Special collections from renowned libraries, and Skills needed for future librarians.

The conference offers attendees a unique opportunity to interact with global libraries and learn about the latest practices and technologies in the field of information. It also contributes to promoting Dubai as a global destination for knowledge and innovation in the library sector, supporting the We the UAE 2031 vision for comprehensive development.

**We wish you an enriching and inspiring experience!**

**Supreme Committee of Dubai International Library Conference**

DILC 2024  
COMMITTEE



**Ibrahim Al Hashmi**  
Supreme Committee Member  
UAE



**Isobel Abulhoul**  
Supreme Committee Member  
UAE



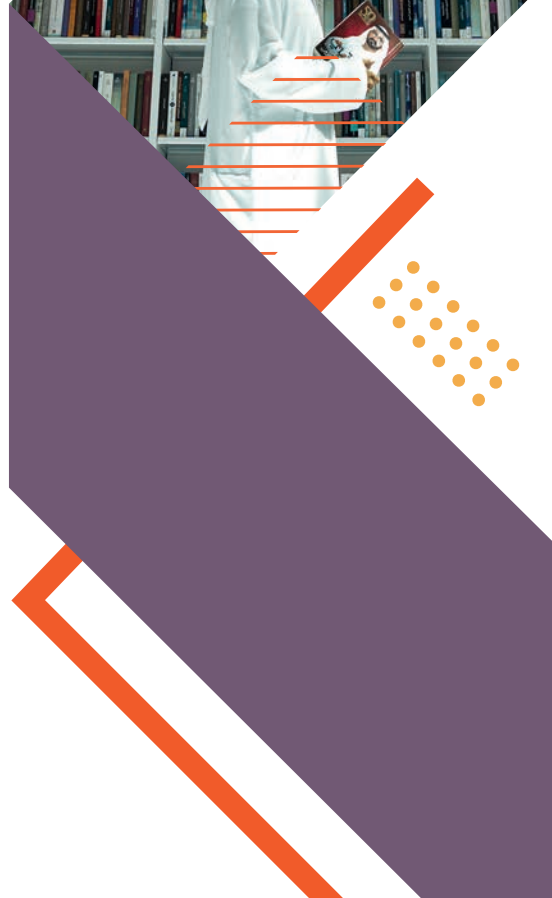
**Jamal Al Shehhi**  
Supreme Committee Member  
UAE



**Samr Al Marzooqi**  
Head of the Organizing Committee  
UAE



**Fatma Fikree**  
Head of the Scientific Committee  
UAE



MEET THE  
DILC 2024  
**SPEAKERS**

# DILC 2024 SPEAKERS



**Dr. Abdelfattah  
Bougchouf**  
Keeper of the Collection  
Al Qarawyiyin Library  
Morocco



**Dr. Abdulaziz Al Musallam**  
Chairman  
Sharjah Institute for Heritage  
UAE



**Dr. Abdulla Khalifa  
Alhefeiti**  
Assistant Vice President  
Khalifa University  
UAE



**Mr. Abdullah AlHawas**  
Head  
ITHRA Library  
Saudi Arabia



**Dr. Abdulrahman Alasem**  
CEO  
Libraries Commission  
Saudi Arabia



**Ms. Afra Atiq**  
Spoken Word Poet  
UAE



**Dr. Ahmed Al Shoaibi**  
Academic and Author  
UAE



**Dr. Ahmed Zayed**  
Director  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina  
Egypt



**Mr. Alan Jacques**  
Library Educator  
Beyond Books  
UAE



**Mr. Ali AlShaali**  
CEO  
Al Hudhud Publishing  
UAE



**Dr. Ali Bin Tamim**  
CEO  
ALC  
UAE



**Ms. Alice Kibombo**  
Senior Programme Officer -  
Libraries  
Wikimedia Foundation  
Uganda



**Ms. Alicia Yeo**  
Director  
National Library Board, Singapore  
Singapore



**Mr. Alwaleed AlKhaja**  
Head of Open Access & Copyright  
Qatar National Library  
Qatar



**Dr. Alyazia Khalifa**  
Founder and CEO  
AlFulk Translation and Publishing  
UAE



**Ms. Areej Al Nazar**  
Jewelry Designer  
Areej Jewelry  
UAE



**Dr. Bassam Daghestani**  
Head of Preservation and  
Archives Dept.  
Juma Al Majd Cultural Centre  
UAE



**Mr. Ben Barry**  
Director of Digital Services  
British Library  
UK



**H.E. Bilal Albudoor**  
Secretary General of MBR Award  
for the Arabic Language  
UAE



**Dr. Colin B Bailey**  
Director  
J P Morgan Library New York  
USA



**Ms. Constantia  
Constantinou**  
Executive Director  
Whiting Foundation  
USA



**Mr. David Mandel**  
Director, Center for Exhibits and  
Interpretation  
Library of Congress  
USA



**Dr. Emad Abu Eid**  
Consultant  
Abu Dhabi Municipality  
UAE



**Mr. Fahad Ali Al Mamari**  
CEO of ELIA  
UAE



**Ms. Gulbakhor Kabiljanova**  
Head of the International Relations  
Department  
National Library of Uzbekistan  
Uzbekistan



**Ms. Hadeer Kamel**  
Information Science Associate  
Professor  
Al Wasl University  
UAE



**Dr. Heba Ismail**  
Vice President  
Arab Federation for Libraries &  
Information (AFLI)  
Egypt



**Ms. Helen Shenton**  
Librarian and College Archivist  
Trinity College, Dublin  
Ireland



**Mr. Hussain AlSammak**  
Deputy President  
Bahraini Library Association & AFLI  
representative in Bahrain  
Bahrain



**Mr. Kamran Kardan**  
Managing Director  
E-Knowledge  
UAE

# DILC 2024 SPEAKERS



**Mr. Imad Bachir**  
Head of libraries at American  
University of Baghdad  
**Iraq**



**Dr. Jeannette Lebrón – Ramos**  
President, IFLA Regional Office  
Latin America and Caribbean  
**Puerto Rico**



**Mr. Khaled AlNassiry**  
Publisher  
Al Mutawasit  
**Italy**



**Ms. Kim Suejeong**  
Librarian  
National Library of Korea  
**Republic of Korea**



**Dr. Kristine N. Stewart**  
Associate Professor  
Zayed University  
**UAE**



**Ms. Lamia Eid**  
Dean  
AUC Libraries  
**Egypt**



**Ms. Liisa Savolainen**  
Deputy Director  
National Library of Finland  
**Finland**



**Ms. Loida Garcia-Febo**  
International Library Consultant  
IFLA Governing Board member  
**USA**



**Mr. Louis Coiffait-Gunn**  
CEO  
CILIP  
**UK**



**Ms. Maitha Al Khayat**  
Author  
**UAE**



**Mr. Marek Kowalkiewicz**  
Professor and Chair in Digital  
Economy  
QUT Business School  
**Australia**



**Ms. Mariam Jumaa**  
Senior Librarian & Project Manager  
Mohammed bin Rashid Library  
**UAE**



**Mrs. Maryam A. Al Falahi**  
The Executive Council  
Dubai Government  
**UAE**



**Mr. Masud Khokhar**  
Chair  
Research Libraries UK (RLUK)  
**UK**



**Mr. Mehmet Lacinkaya**  
Head of Digital Transformation  
General Directorate of Libraries  
Ministry of Culture and Tourism  
**Turkey**



**Ms. Merve Yavuzdemir**  
 Head of the Foreign Relations  
 Department General Directorate of  
 Libraries and Publications  
**Turkey**



**Mr. Mohamad Alkamali**  
 Board Member  
 Emirates Reprographic Rights  
 Association  
**UAE**



**H.E. Dr. Mohammed  
 Ahmed AlMurr**  
 Chairman  
 MBRL Foundation  
**UAE**



**Prof. Muhsin Al Musawi**  
 Professor  
 Columbia University  
**USA**



**Prof. Myra Garcés-Bacsal**  
 Assistant Dean for Research and  
 Graduate Studies  
 United Arab Emirates University  
**UAE**



**Mrs. Patricia Silva**  
 Professor of Book Arts and  
 Printmaking, Santa Reparata  
 International School of Art  
**Italy**



**Prof. Paulo Lemos Horta**  
 Associate Professor of Literature  
 NYUAD  
**UAE**



**Prof. Peter Gatiti**  
 President  
 Kenya Library Association  
**Kenya**



**Ms. Rangashri Kishore**  
 Regional Director  
 Read India  
**India**



**Dr. Reem Tariq El Mutwalli**  
 Founder  
 Zay Initiative  
**UAE**



**Ms. Rosemary Shafack**  
 President  
 African Library and Information  
 Associations and Institutions  
**Cameroon**



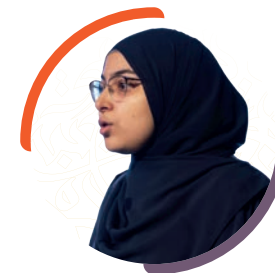
**Dr. Saif Aljabri**  
 Chair  
 IFLA Regional Office MENA  
**Oman**



**Dr. Sami Moubayed**  
 Historian, Writer, Elected  
 Researcher  
 Royal Historical Society in London  
**Syria**



**Ms. Sara Almarzooqi**  
 PG level Director of Special  
 Projects and Programs  
 Sharjah Book Authority  
**UAE**



**Ms. Serine Ben Brahim**  
 Director  
 Wikimedia  
**UAE**

# DILC 2024 SPEAKERS



**Ms. Shaikha AlMutairi**  
Head of National Heritage Dept,  
Juma Al Majid Cultural Centre  
**UAE**



**Ms. Sharon Memis**  
Secretary General  
IFLA  
**The Netherlands**



**Mr. Stephen Wyber**  
Director, External Affairs  
IFLA  
**The Netherlands**



**Mr. Sultan Saif AlMazrouei**  
Director  
Emirates Library & Information  
Association  
**UAE**



**Mr. Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi**  
Founder  
Barjeel Art Foundation  
**UAE**



**Ms. Tan Huism**  
Executive Director  
Qatar National Library  
**Qatar**



**Ms. Tatiana Usova**  
Director of Library  
Carnegie Mellon University Qatar  
**Qatar**



**Ms. Tessa Michaelson Schmidt**  
Director - The Cooperative  
Children's Book Center  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
**USA**



**Mr. Tharwat Al-Olaimi**  
Senior Cataloguer  
University of Sharjah Libraries  
**UAE**



**Mrs. Umida Teshabaeva**  
Director  
National Library of Uzbekistan  
**Uzbekistan**



**Mr. Vipin SJ**  
Senior Partnerships Manager  
Wikimedia Foundation  
**India**



**Ms. Wanjiru Koinange**  
Founder  
Book Bunk  
**Kenya**



**H.E. Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh**  
Cultural Advisor to the  
President of the UAE  
Chancellor of UAE University  
**UAE**





**Dr. Ahmed Al Shoabi**  
Academic and Author  
UAE



**Mr. Alan Jacques**  
Library Educator  
Beyond Books  
UAE



**Alia Alshamsi**  
The Cultural Programming  
Manager, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
UAE



**Ms. Amina Itani**  
UAE



**Ms. Deema Al Alami**  
Educator, Reading Advocate,  
and Author  
UAE



**Ms. Doudja Benfredj**  
Media Expert and Writer  
UAE



**Dr. Emad Abu Eid**  
Consultant  
Abu Dhabi Municipality  
UAE



**Mr. Fahad Ali Al Mamari**  
CEO of ELIA  
UAE



**Prof. Hanada Taha**  
Director, Zayed Arabic, Teaching  
& Learning Institute, Office of  
Research, Zayed University  
UAE



**Mr. Hareth Al Bustani**  
Head of Content & Publishing  
Burson's Arts & Culture Practice  
UAE



**Ms. Isobel Abulhoul**  
Founder, Advisor and Trustee  
Emirates Literature Foundation  
UAE



**Ms. Kara Jones**  
Director of Libraries American  
University of Sharjah  
UAE



**Dr. Kristine N. Stewart**  
Associate Professor  
Zayed University  
UAE



**Ms. Marwa Melhem**  
Head of Arabic Programming  
Emirates Literature Foundation  
UAE



**Ms. Mary Rose Grieve**  
School Librarian  
Hartland International School  
UAE

# DILC 2024 MODERATORS



**Mr. Masud Khokhar**  
Chair  
Research Libraries UK (RLUK)  
UK



**Prof. Paulo Lemos Horta**  
Associate Professor of Literature  
NYUAD  
UAE



**Ms. Randa Al Chidiac**  
Director of Libraries  
AUD  
UAE



**Ms. Shaikha AlMutairi**  
Head of National Heritage Dept,  
Juma Al Majid Cultural Centre  
UAE



**Ms. Shamma Al Bastaki**  
Writer and Poet  
UAE



**Ms. Shatha Alhashmi**  
UAE



**Dr. William Gerard Zimmerle**  
Senior Lecturer  
New York University Abu Dhabi  
UAE



**Prof. Yusra Mouzughi**  
Provost  
University of Birmingham Dubai  
UAE



# DAY ONE AGENDA

15 NOVEMBER, 2024

# DAY ONE AGENDA

## MBRL THEATRE

15:30 - 15:45

### OPENING SPEECH

**H.E. MOHAMMED AHMED AL MURR**

15:45 - 16:00

### EMBRACING THE AGE OF AI - HARNESSING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF A DIGITAL FUTURE

**PROF. MAREK KOWALKIEWICZ**

Marek Kowalkiewicz, the founding director of QUT's Research Centre for the Digital Economy, says we humans should have nothing to fear from the advent of AI and must embrace the technology. He maintains that it is our misunderstanding of what algorithms can do that cause the problems. We must learn how to control algorithms for our benefit, arguing that they are 'minions' or 'serfs' created to do our bidding, we just need to retain and enhance our power. Find out how you can embrace the power in this fascinating opening session of the conference.

16:00 - 16:50

### AI AND THE LIBRARY: A NEW CHAPTER

**PROF. MAREK KOWALKIEWICZ;  
MR. LOUIS COIFFAIT-GUNN; MS. LIISA SAVOLAINEN**

What do the latest AI developments mean for Librarians now? Professor Kowalkiewicz joins a panel of leading figures in the industry to discuss how librarians can capitalize on the technologies available to them.

16:55 - 17:40

### ICONIC LIBRARIES AND THEIR TREASURES

**MS. HELEN SHENTON; DR. AHMED ZAYED;  
DR. COLIN B. BAILEY; H.E. MOHAMMED AHMED AL  
MURR; MR. DAVID MANDEL**

Instantly recognisable, iconic libraries around the world stand as beacons of culture, knowledge and history. We delve into what makes a library iconic, their history, their future, and the treasures that they protect.

17:40 - 18:00

### COFFEE BREAK & MAGHREB PRAYER

18:00 - 18:50

### BRIDGING CULTURES AND COMMUNITIES: PUBLIC LIBRARIES AS GUARDIANS OF HERITAGE

**MS. MARYAM ALI AL FALAH; MR. KHALED ALNASSIRY**

Public Libraries are essential pillars of cultural preservation and community cohesion. This session delves into the critical role libraries play in fostering intercultural understanding and appreciation. We will explore strategies for transforming libraries into vibrant spaces where individuals from diverse backgrounds can connect, share, and learn from one another through the power of reading and shared experiences. Join us to discover how libraries can become catalysts for cultural exchange and community building.



# DAY TWO AGENDA

16 NOVEMBER, 2024

# DAY TWO AGENDA

## MBRL THEATRE

09:30 - 10:15

ADVOCACY, CONNECTION AND EMPOWERMENT -  
WHAT CAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS DO FOR YOU?

**SHARON MEMIS; LOUIS COIFFAIT-GUNN;  
LOIDA GARCIA-FEBO**

The global landscape facing librarians today presents many challenges from cyber-attacks to political, economic and social upheavals. So too, there are multiple opportunities to reach wider audiences and share knowledge across the world. Library associations are perfectly placed to share best practice, support and guide, and help libraries and librarians overcome hurdles, achieve their goals and keep libraries relevant and engaging in the modern world.

10:30 - 11:15

OPEN ACCESS - AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM?

**MR. MASUD KHOKHAR; MS. ALICIA YEO;  
MR. BEN BARRY; DR. ALWALEED ALKHAJA**

Open access was intended to solve the problems of accessibility, affordability, and equality for the sharing and accessing of research and reports within the scholarly and professional publishing communities. With the introduction of models such as pay-to-publish and article processing charges (APC), has the reality betrayed the promise of OA and what are the future prospects for actualising OA's intended benefits?

11:30 - 12:30

GUARDIANS OF HERITAGE

**DR. ALI BIN TAMIM; DR. ABDELFAHATTAH BOUGCHOUF;  
DR. ABDULAZIZ AL MUSALLAM;  
PROF. MUHSIN JASSIM AL-MUSAWI**

Join us for an enlightening session that delves into the rich tapestry of Arabic heritage, exploring the unique preservation efforts from the UAE's perspective and the historical significance of Al-Qarawiyyin University. Discover how modern initiatives and ancient traditions intertwine to safeguard our cultural legacy. Learn about the pivotal role of museums, festivals, and educational institutions in the UAE, and the remarkable restoration journey of one of the world's oldest universities. This session promises to inspire and inform, offering practical insights on how we can all contribute to preserving our shared heritage for future generations.

12:30 - 13:45

LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

KNOWLEDGE UNDER THREAT. LESSONS LEARNED  
FROM THE CYBER-ATTACK ON THE BRITISH LIBRARY

**MR. BEN BARRY; PROF. MAREK KOWALKIEWICZ**

The 2023 cyber-attack on the British Library sent shockwaves across the world. A year and a half later, the impact of this massive breach is still being felt. Hear from experts about the lessons learned, what's next for cyber security and how we can safeguard knowledge for the future.

15:00 - 15:45

A GLOBAL TREASURE CHEST

**MR. MASUD KHOKHAR; MS. HELEN SHENTON;  
DR. JEANNETTE LEBRÓN-RAMOS**

As guardians of some of the world's most incredible, priceless and culturally important collections of documents, manuscripts and books, libraries around the globe have an important role in preserving these treasures for the future. Join us as we explore how digital transformation is helping this to become a reality.

16:00 - 16:45

ADVOCACY, CONNECTION AND EMPOWERMENT -  
WHAT CAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS DO FOR YOU?

**MR. HUSSAIN ALSAMMAK; DR. SAIF ALJABRI;  
MR. SULTAN SAIF ALMAZROUEI**

The global landscape facing librarians today presents many challenges from cyber-attacks to political, economic and social upheavals. So too, there are multiple opportunities to reach wider audiences and share knowledge across the world. Library associations are perfectly placed to share best practice, support and guide, and help libraries and librarians overcome hurdles, achieve their goals and keep libraries relevant and engaging in the modern world.

17:00 - 17:15

A WORLD IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**MS. MARIAM JUMAA**

## MBRL FOYER

09:30 - 10:15

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE - ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

**PROF. KRISTINE N. STEWART; DR. ABDULLA ALHEFEITI;  
PROF. TATIANA USOVA; PROF. PETER GATITI;  
PROF. ROSEMARY SHAFACK**

The future holds many challenges for academic librarians, such as the impact of AI, adopting innovative methods of providing access, and accommodating diverse points of view whilst avoiding polarisation. Which new policies and practices will be required to continue providing high quality support for student achievement whilst enhancing teaching, learning and academic research.

10:30 - 11:15

### ARCHIVING THE ARCHITECTURE

**MR. SHAIKH SULTAN AL QASSIMI**

The UAE boasts a rich architectural tapestry, reflecting its diverse cultural heritage. This session explores the critical role of archiving in preserving our nation's-built environment. From traditional mud-brick structures to contemporary skyscrapers, we will delve into the methods and challenges of documenting the UAE's architectural journey. Join us to discover how to safeguard our architectural heritage for future generations.

11:30 - 12:15

### THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN BUILDING BRIDGES AND PROMOTING CROSS CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

**MS. CONSTANTIA CONSTANTINOU;  
MS. SHARON MEMIS**

Thanks to modern technologies, global communications and international dialogues, libraries can reach beyond only local communities and offer universal access to knowledge, information, leisure and culture. They can promote social inclusion, shared human experiences, break down barriers and promote tolerance and peace, elements very much in demand in today's world. This session discusses the ins and outs of such a diverse role.

12:30 - 13:45

### LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

### THE JOURNEY OF WORDS

**MR. SHAIKH SULTAN AL QASSIMI;  
H.E. ZAKI ANWAR NUSSEIBEH**

The words we use and stories we tell capture the colour, insights and minutiae about our lives that the historians of the future could not

derive from facts alone. Memoirs are vitally important to enable us to interpret and preserve the past, but can get lost in the mists of time, particularly in an oral society. How did nomadic societies archive their stories and histories and who were the keepers of their narratives? What role do collectors of ancient works play as archivists, and does their agility in being able to acquire unusual artefacts mean that they are just as instrumental as governments in safeguarding a nation's history? And if words shape how historians see us in the future, how has the journey of the UAE been shaped by the words of Sheikh Zayed?

15:00 - 15:45

### FROM CLAY TABLETS TO CLOUD COMPUTING, A BRIEF HISTORY OF LIBRARIES

**DR. MUHSIN JASSIM AL-MUSAWI;  
DR. SAMI MOUBAYED; DR. LAMIA EID**

Dr. Lamia Eid, Dr. Sami Mubayyed and Dr. Muhsin Jassim Al-Musawi explore the evolution of libraries, tracing their history from the ancient clay tablets of Mesopotamia to the rise of digital archives. The discussion delves into the pivotal role libraries have played in preserving human culture, knowledge, and storytelling, as well as the ways modern technology continues to shape how we access and share information. A unique perspective on the enduring importance of libraries in an ever-changing world.

16:00 - 16:45

### THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN PROMOTING THE ARABIC LANGUAGE

**H.E. DR. ALI BIN TAMIM**

How can libraries play a key role in enhancing the use of the Arabic language in the community?

- The challenges libraries face in providing Arabic-language resources
- What are the strategies to encourage reading in Arabic among children and youth?
- Qasr Al Watan Library – case study

17:00 - 17:45

### LAUNCH OF THE 9TH EDITION OF THE MOHAMMED BIN RASHID ARABIC LANGUAGE AWARD

**H.E. BILAL ALBUDOOR**

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Arabic Language Award announcement for the opening of registrations for its 9th edition. The initiative continues the UAE leadership's unwavering commitment to supporting the Arabic language and enhancing its global presence. It also reaffirms Dubai and the UAE's dedication to preserving and developing Arab cultural heritage through various innovative means.

# DAY TWO AGENDA

## 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 10

09:30 - 10:15

### IT'S ALL IN THE GAME - FUTURE PROOFING YOUR LIBRARY

**MR. STEPHEN WYBER**

Riding the Waves or Caught in the Tide? Insights from the IFLA Trend Report with Stephen Wyber, Director, External Affairs, IFLA (policy and advocacy). How do you build a strategy to be ready for different future scenarios? If you are dealing with uncertainty, how do you invest your time, effort, or even make a start. Join Stephen for collaborative games to simulate discussion on how to be ready for the future.

10:30 - 11:15

### CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT FOR LIBRARIANS: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIANS

**DR. LAMIA EID**

This session examines the transformative journey of library learning spaces at the American University in Cairo (AUC), highlighting innovative strategies that enhance student engagement and learning. Presenters will discuss the vision behind the redesign of library spaces, focusing on how to create flexible, collaborative environments that cater to diverse learning styles and foster academic success.

Attendees will explore the integration of technology, the importance of incorporating student feedback, and the role of librarians as facilitators in these transformed spaces. Case studies will showcase specific projects that have successfully reimaged traditional library layouts into dynamic hubs for research, creativity, and collaboration. This session invites librarians, educators, and administrators to gain insights from AUC's experience and consider practical approaches for transforming their own library environments to better support the evolving needs of their communities.

11:30 - 12:15

### BUILDING SDG LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

**PROF. MYRA GARCES-BACSAI**

This session focuses on the critical role of school and academic libraries in supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the development of relevant and impactful collections. Participants will explore strategies for curating library resources that align with the SDGs, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity, accessibility, and relevance in collection development. Experts will discuss best practices for identifying, acquiring, and promoting materials that address key global challenges such as

climate change, gender equality, and quality education. Attendees will learn how to engage students and faculty in the selection process, integrate SDG themes into library programming, and leverage partnerships with community organizations to enhance their collections. This session is ideal for librarians, educators, and administrators looking to strengthen their libraries' contributions to sustainable development and empower their communities through informed action and awareness."

12:30 - 13:45

## LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:4

### THE LIBRARIES OF UZBEKISTAN - THEN AND NOW

**MS. UMIDA TESHABAEVA;  
MS. GULBAKHOR KABILJANOVA**

Insights into the rich collections of the libraries of Uzbekistan, presented by the first female Uzbek director of the National Library of Uzbekistan, Umida Teshabaeva, and Gulbahor Kabiljanova, head of international relations. They will take a look at the unique treasures contained in the National Library in Tashkent which includes rare Islamic manuscripts and documents recognised by UNESCO. They will also discuss the evolution of the library landscape in Uzbekistan with around 200 libraries/information centres active undertaking a wealth of projects and activities, especially in promoting reading. Session will be in English and Uzbek/Russian with interpreter. Slides will be in English.

15:00 - 15:45

### AN INTRODUCTION TO WIKIMEDIA

**MR. VIPIN SJ**

This session will provide an overview of Wikimedia projects, such as Wikipedia, and the Wikimedia community. We will explore the shared spaces and collaborative efforts between Wikimedia and librarians, as well as introduce The Wikipedia Library, a free library for the Wikimedia community, with content from over 100 publishers.

16:00 - 16:45

### AT THE FOREFRONT - THE USE OF AI AND DIGITALISATION AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF KOREA

**DR. SUEJEONG KIM**

Sujeong Kim, head of the digital transformation initiative and development of AI services at the National Library of Korea presents a masterclass on the solutions and challenges involved in using cutting edge technologies to digitalise collections. Along with the National Library, Ms. Kim has been involved in several projects to digitilise the collections of government and private institutions in Korea, such as the Art Gallery and Institute of Music, and is in Dubai to share her expertise. Session in Korean with translation.



## 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 09

09:30 - 10:15

### ITHRA LIBRARY: A HUB OF SUSTAINABLE CREATIVITY

#### MR. ABDALLAH AL HAWAS

This talk explores the evolving role of libraries as dynamic centers of creativity and innovation within communities taking Ithra Library as a model. It highlights how libraries can foster creativity through resources, programs, and collaborative spaces.

The talk also will emphasize the importance of libraries in nurturing creativity, providing a safe space for exploration, and fostering a culture of innovation that benefits the entire community.

10:30 - 11:15

### A PURPOSEFUL WAY FORWARD FOR UAE LIBRARIES

#### DR. EMAD ABU EID

Explore the current scene and future direction of UAE libraries in this insightful session. Based on the latest report on the status of UAE libraries, we'll discuss strategic pathways to enhance their impact and relevance in an ever-changing world. Join us to uncover key findings, innovative solutions, and a purposeful vision that will drive UAE libraries forward, ensuring they continue to serve as vital pillars of knowledge, culture, and community engagement.

11:30 - 12:30

### KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT VS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT -HOW THIS IS SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES

#### PROF. PETER GATITI

What is the evolving relationship between knowledge management (KM) and information management (IM) and their implications for the future of libraries. Attendees will gain insights into how libraries can leverage both disciplines to enhance service delivery, foster collaboration, and support lifelong learning in an increasingly complex information landscape. The session will cover key differences between KM and IM, including their respective goals, strategies, and tools, and will highlight successful case studies that illustrate how libraries are integrating these approaches to meet the needs of their communities. Participants will also engage in discussions about the skills and competencies required for library professionals to effectively navigate and implement KM and IM practices in their institutions, ultimately positioning libraries as vital hubs of knowledge creation and sharing in the digital age.

12:30 - 13:45

LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

### LIBRARIES AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION - JEWELLERY DESIGN

#### MS. AREEJ AL NIZAR

This unique session explores the intersection of library research, history, and art through the design of jewelry inspired by legendary figures, cultural myths, and historical artifacts. Attendees will learn how in-depth research in libraries—ranging from ancient manuscripts to folklore collections—can be transformed into meaningful jewelry pieces that embody the stories and symbols of past eras such as Babylon. The designer will showcase examples of jewelry influenced by historical legends and discuss the research process, challenges in authentic interpretation, and the role of libraries as a rich resource for artists and designers. Join us to discover how libraries can inspire and preserve cultural heritage through wearable art.

15:00 - 15:45

### HOW TO ADOPT WESTERN CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS INTO ARABIC

#### DR. SAIF ALJABRI

This session explores the intricacies of integrating Western library classification systems, such as Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress, into Arabic-speaking collections. With a focus on linguistic and cultural alignment, experts will discuss the challenges and strategies involved in adapting these systems to ensure accurate representation and accessibility for Arabic users. Topics include modifying subject headings, addressing language-specific nuances, and creating supplementary classification tools that respect regional contexts. This session invites librarians, catalogers, and academic professionals to share best practices and explore collaborative solutions for creating a more inclusive and effective classification system for Arabic libraries.

16:00 - 16:45

### CLASSIFICATION OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES IN LIBRARIES USING RDA AND MARC 21

#### MR THARWAT AL-OLAIMI

This session addresses the specialized application of Resource Description and Access (RDA) and MARC 21 for cataloging and classifying unique library holdings, such as rare books, manuscripts, and archival materials. Attendees will gain insights into best practices for applying these standards to special collections, enhancing discoverability while preserving the integrity of unique resources. Presenters will discuss challenges in adapting RDA's descriptive framework to accommodate the nuanced details of archival materials and explore how MARC 21 fields can be customized to capture intricate data specific to special collections.

# DAY TWO AGENDA

## 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 04

09:30 - 10:15

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR LIBRARIANS

#### **DR. HEBA MOHAMED ISMAIL**

Libraries are at a crossroads, demanding innovative leaders to navigate a complex and evolving landscape. This session will equip you with the essential skills to not only survive but thrive in this dynamic environment. From harnessing technology to fostering community connections, discover how to position yourself at the forefront of library innovation. Join us to unlock your leadership potential and shape the future of libraries.

10:30 - 11:15

### FROM PRAYER BOOK TO ARTIST'S BOOK: AN EVOLUTION OF THE BOOK AS ART

#### **PROF. PATRICIA SILVA**

With a background in Art History and Book Arts, Patricia lives and works in the spectacularly beautiful city of Florence, Italy, where she teaches various aspects of book arts. Here she takes us on a journey of the development of The Artist Book, a handmade book that incorporates different media and materials as well as ornamental and decorative techniques such as gold leafing. A beautiful story in itself.

11:30 - 12:30

### AI IN TRANSLATION: NAVIGATING TOOLS AND OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

#### **MR. PAULO LEMOS HORTA**

This workshop delves into the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on translation practices within libraries and academic institutions. Attendees will explore current AI-powered translation tools, their capabilities, and their limitations when applied to complex or culturally nuanced texts. Experts will discuss practical strategies for integrating AI translation technology while addressing key challenges, such as maintaining linguistic accuracy, preserving cultural context, and managing data privacy concerns. This session invites translators, librarians, and information professionals to engage in a discussion on how to best leverage AI for multilingual access and knowledge sharing in diverse library collections.

12:30 - 13:45

## LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

### CELEBRATING UAE'S SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

#### **PROF. KRISTINE STEWART, MS. SARA ALMARZOUQI**

This session pays tribute to the vital role of school librarians in the UAE's educational landscape and highlights the significance of the Annual School Librarian Award. The school librarians who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to fostering a love of reading, supporting student learning, and promoting information literacy. The session will provide an overview of the award criteria, the selection process, and the achievements of past winners, illustrating how their innovative programs and initiatives have positively impacted students and schools. Attendees will also have the opportunity to hear inspiring stories from award recipients, discussing the challenges they overcame and the creative solutions they implemented to enhance library services. This celebration not only acknowledges individual accomplishments but also aims to inspire and empower all school librarians to continue their vital work in shaping the future of education in the UAE.

15:00 - 15:45

### BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE

#### **MS. MAITHA AL KHAYAT; MS. AFRA ATIQ**

Discover new approaches to turn ordinary narratives into extraordinary experiences. Learn practical techniques to create immersive worlds that captivate young minds and nurture a lifelong love of reading. Join us to unlock the magic of storytelling and inspire the next generation of readers.

16:00 - 16:45

### OPEN ACCESS

#### **DR. IMAD BACHIR, DR. ALWALEED ALKHAJA, DR. ABDULLAH ALHEFEITI**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 03

09:30 - 10:15

### THE ROLE OF OPEN ACCESS AND CURATING GLOBAL RESOURCES

#### **PROF. MYRA GARCES-BACSA**

This session explores the critical role of open access (OA) in democratizing knowledge and enabling libraries to curate a diverse array of global resources. Speakers will address how OA initiatives help libraries provide unrestricted access to scholarly work, foster international collaboration, and support equitable information sharing across borders. The session will also examine the challenges librarians face in curating open-access resources, including assessing resource quality, managing licensing complexities, and ensuring long-term accessibility. Attendees will gain practical insights into best practices for integrating OA materials into collections to enhance global knowledge exchange and support the academic community.

15:00 - 15:45

### ANTI-TRAFFICKING PREVENTION: GUIDELINES TO SAFEGUARD OUR LIBRARY ASSETS

#### **MS. HUISM TAN**

As accessible public spaces and information hubs, libraries are uniquely positioned to help combat trafficking by raising awareness, supporting at-risk individuals, and providing essential resources. This session will present a comprehensive framework for establishing anti-trafficking guidelines within libraries, focusing on building awareness, training staff, and creating partnerships with local organizations and law enforcement.





# DAY THREE AGENDA

17 NOVEMBER, 2024

# DAY THREE AGENDA

## MBRL THEATRE

09:30 - 10:00

THE IMPACT OF GOING DIGITAL ON LEADERSHIP

**MR. MASUD KHOKHAR**

A dynamic leader in library and archive innovation, Masud Khokhar shares his views on the role of technology and innovation in libraries today and how he sees these trends evolving in the future.

10:15 - 11:15

THE UNITED NATION'S PLEA TO LIBRARIES – HOW CAN LIBRARIES USE SDG'S AS A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT?

**MR. STEPHEN WYBER; MS. LOIDA GARCIA-FEBO**

The United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals work towards promoting peace and prosperity for all the planet, now and in the future. How can libraries utilise these fundamental aims as stepping-stones to develop partnerships, promote equality and responsibility and ensure that future generations look to libraries as centres of knowledge and peace?

11:30 - 12:30

THE ROLE OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN CURATING A COUNTRY'S SENSE OF SELF

**MR. DAVID MANDEL; MS. LIISA SAVOLAINEN**

The role of national libraries in curating a country's sense of self. As repositories of important documentation, works and archives, libraries record the social, political and economic history of a country and the impact this has had on its culture. We take a closer look at how this reflects a country's sense of standing and self in the world and what this means for the people who live there and who visit.

12:30 - 13:45

LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

GIFTING THE LOVE OF BOOKS -THE IMPORTANCE OF INCLUDING CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

**MS. MAITHA AL KHAYAT; DR. RANGASHRI KISHORE;  
DR. AHMED AL SHOAIBI;  
MS. TESSA MICHAELSON SCHMIDT**

The future of any country lies in its children, so there seems every reason to encourage and optimise the opportunity to include an abundant choice of books for children in any public library. Is this really the reality though? Hear from leading authors, librarians and specialists in children's collections on their visions for children's literature in the public domain.

15:00 - 16:00

WILL LIBRARIES BECOME THE MUSEUMS OF THE FUTURE?

**DR. COLIN B. BAILEY; MS. HUISM TAN;  
DR. SAMI MOUBAYED**

In a technology driven future, are libraries destined to become relics of the past? How can they adapt to a rapidly changing world and is there any need for them to? Will we visit libraries only with a sense of nostalgia as our children glean their knowledge from iPads? We ask these fundamental questions to a panel of leading authorities in the world of libraries and museums and find out if we are heading back to the future.

16:10 - 17:10

KEEPERS OF COLLECTIONS - FAVOURITE BOOKS

**MR. MASUD KHOKHAR; DR. COLIN B. BAILEY;  
MS. SHARON MEMIS**

So often in the journey of life, we come across a book that changes everything. It can reset our path, inspire our futures or help heal us. Some of our leading speakers share their favourite books and tell us about the impact that book had on their path through life.

## MBRL FOYER

10:15 - 11:15

ACTS OF GOD AND MAN

**DR. JEANNETTE LEBRÓN-RAMOS;**  
**DR. SAMI MOUBAYED**

In times of civil unrest, wars and devastating environmental activity such as hurricanes, flooding or fires, libraries and their treasures are vulnerable. To protect against the loss of library collections, a number of libraries have developed ways to safeguard their contents. From Syria to Puerto Rico, we delve into the techniques, trials and success stories of saving libraries from threat.

11:30 - 12:15

LIBRARIES - THE MARK OF A CARING AND CIVILIZED SOCIETY?

**MS. CONSTANTIA CONSTANTINOU;**  
**DR. RANGASHRI KISHORE; MS. WANJIRU KOINANGE**

A civilised society is one that has developed a complex cultural, political and legal hierarchy and structure and a way of life that treats its people fairly. Libraries stand firmly at the centre of these interconnecting elements, not only as keepers of knowledge and information, but as places of community engagement and outreach. We talk to leading librarians who have made their communities the centre of everything that they do within their libraries and who actively seek meaningful partnerships and opportunities to enhance connections and drive engagement.

12:30 - 13:45

LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

LIBRARY SPACES FIT FOR THE FUTURE

**MS. WANJIRU KOINANGE; MS. HELEN SHENTON;**  
**MS. ALICIA YEO**

Iconic buildings, outstanding collections, sure, but do libraries today actually keep pace with the needs of the communities they serve? What does it take to attract the youth of the 21st century? We talk to librarians and keepers of libraries that have gone the extra mile to reinvigorate and breathe new life into their library spaces and discover what it takes to blend function with technology and tradition.

15:00 - 16:00

TRAVELLING TREASURES - THE AMAZING JOURNEY OF THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

**DR. MUHSIN JASSIM AL-MUSAWI;**  
**MR. PAULO LEMOS HORTA**

Perhaps no other book has travelled like that of the Arabian Nights - weaving stories across the sands of time from the Islamic golden age, to pervade modern story-telling, theatre and movies. What is it about these fantastical tales that so captured our imaginations, and how do they still manage to delight and entertain us today? Join us on a delightful journey across the ages and across the globe with the amazing journey of the Arabian Nights.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 10

10:15 - 11:15

LIBRARIES FOR A KNOWLEDGE-BASED SOCIETY: TÜRKIYE'S PATH TOWARDS ACCESSIBLE, TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED SERVICES

**MR. MEHMET LACINKAYA; MS. MERVE YAVUZDEMIR**

This session explores Türkiye's journey in transforming libraries into accessible, technology-driven hubs of knowledge. Join us to learn how innovative services are bridging information gaps, fostering digital inclusion, and supporting a knowledge-based society.

11:30 - 12:30

DEVELOPING ARABIC LANGUAGE COLLECTIONS

**MR. FAHAD AL MAMARI**

In an ever-evolving information environment, building a relevant and dynamic library collection is essential. This session will explore strategies for collection development, acquisition, and management. Discover best practices for selecting, evaluating, and acquiring resources that meet the diverse needs of your patrons. Learn how to optimise your collection budget, leverage technology, and measure collection effectiveness. Join us to enhance your collection development skills and create a library collection that truly serves your community.

12:30 - 13:45

LUNCH BREAK

# DAY THREE AGENDA

15:00 - 16:00

## THE SCIENCE OF READING: WHAT EVERY EDUCATOR SHOULD KNOW

**MR. ALAN JACQUES**

Scientific research about the developing brain has uncovered many of the mysteries of the complex biology that happens as growing children learn to read. Combined with decades of action research from classrooms around the world, we now have some well established 'facts' about learning to reading. However, we still see old methods. This talk is aimed at policy makers, school leaders, teachers, librarians, & parents...anyone who is interested in raising literacy levels in children and repairing our relationship to reading so that it is fun again.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 09

10:15 - 11:15

## THE RIGHT BOOK FOR THE RIGHT CHILD WITH THE COOPERATIVE CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTRE - WORKSHOP

**MS. TESSA MICHAELSON SCHMIDT**

Join Tessa Michaelson Schmidt, Director, The Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for an in- depth look at their work. The CCBC is a unique resource for librarians, students, parents or any other professional who works with children. A key focus is the provision of information on a wide variety of books, assessing them for diversity, representation and inclusion. The centre reviews copies from hundreds of publishers and thousands of books each year, publishing statistics about representation which allows analysis of where there is growth and domination. The CCBC then creates lists of selected books to enable librarians to select appropriately for their demographic, using up to 500 tags to customise and fine-tune the information, a methodology that could be adopted by librarians in their own libraries.

11:30 - 12:30

## SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANS - PLACE OF AI IN SCHOOLS

**MS. LOIDA GARCIA-FEBO**

Loida Garcia Febo will illustrate how artificial intelligence is reshaping the role of school libraries and librarians, providing tools to enhance student learning, streamline library operations, and personalize the research experience. Topics include AI-driven cataloging, personalized reading recommendations, and tools for supporting student research and information literacy. Attendees will discuss practical applications of AI in a school library setting, as well as ethical

considerations, such as data privacy, digital literacy, and the impact of AI on students' critical thinking skills. This session invites school librarians to explore how they can integrate AI effectively while fostering a supportive, responsible learning environment.

12:30 - 13:45

### LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

## CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION IN LIBRARIES

**MR. HUSSAIN ALSAMMAK**

Creativity and innovation in libraries are fundamental to enhancing the user experience and improving access to knowledge. By leveraging modern technology, such as electronic services and smart applications, libraries can better meet the needs of their visitors. Additionally, designing interactive spaces and organizing workshops that promote creativity and continuous learning are essential. Libraries are vital centers that must continually evolve to align with cultural and technological changes.

15:00 - 16:00

## HOUSES OF CULTURE: A MODERN CONCEPT FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

**DR. ABDULRAHMAN ALASEM**

This session explores Saudi Arabia's innovative approach to public libraries as vibrant cultural centers, extending beyond traditional roles to become dynamic hubs of learning, creativity, and community engagement. Presenters will discuss how Saudi libraries are embracing this "Houses of Culture" model to offer diverse programming, cultural exhibitions, interactive learning spaces, and events that celebrate local heritage and global knowledge. Attendees will gain insights into how this transformation is reshaping public perception of libraries in Saudi Arabia, aligning with Vision 2030 goals, and fostering lifelong learning in an inclusive, modern environment. This session is ideal for those interested in the evolving role of public libraries in promoting cultural and educational development.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 04

10:15 - 11:15

## THE ROLE OF COPYRIGHT IN LIBRARIES – ERRA

**MR. MOHAMAD ALKAMALI**

This session underscores the critical role of copyright within libraries, focusing on the balance between protecting intellectual property and fostering innovation in information access.



11:30 - 12:30

#### ORANGE PIER - INVESTING IN TALENT: BUILDING A THRIVING CREATIVE COMMUNITY

**MS. ALYAZIAH KHALIFA**

What are the initiatives and strategies employed by Orange Pier to foster and invest in local talent within the UAE's creative sector. Attendees will explore how Orange Pier cultivates a vibrant community by providing resources, mentorship, and collaborative opportunities for emerging artists, designers, and innovators. The discussion will highlight successful projects and partnerships that illustrate the impact of investing in creative talent on cultural and economic development in the region. Participants will also engage in conversations about the challenges and opportunities faced by creatives in the UAE and how libraries and cultural institutions can play a pivotal role in supporting and enhancing this thriving community. Join us to discover how collaborative efforts can shape the future of creativity in the UAE.

12:30 - 13:45

#### LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

#### THE PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE FOR LIBRARIANS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES, AI CHALLENGES, AND THE UAE MODEL

**DR. HADEER KAMEL**

The Reality of Teaching Library and Information Sciences Worldwide Challenges Faced by Information Institution Professionals in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

The Job Market in the UAE

Library and Information Science Education: Al Wasl University as a Pioneering Experience in the UAE

15:00 - 16:00

#### THE FLOURISHING WORLD OF PUBLISHING

**MR. ALI ALSHAALI**

Explore the vibrant growth of the UAE's publishing industry and its expanding impact on the global literary scene. This session delves into current trends influencing both regional and international markets, examines innovative publishing models, and highlights the role of digital platforms. Join us to discuss how the UAE bridges diverse cultural narratives, fostering a thriving environment for authors, publishers, and readers alike, with Al Hudhud Publishing as a shining example.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROOM 03

10:15 - 11:15

#### UAE ACADEMIC LIBRARIES CONSORTIUM

**DR. ABDULLA ALHEFEITI; MR. KAMRAN KARDAN**

Meeting for the library committee of the UAE universities library directors and research headquarters

11:30 - 12:30

#### EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGE: LIBRARIANS AND WIKIMEDIA

**MS. SERINE BEN BRAHIM; MS. ALICE KIBOMBO**

Join us in this session to explore the powerful synergy between libraries and Wikimedia projects. Learn how to leverage Wikimedia tools and resources to enhance library services, engage with the global knowledge community, and contribute to the development of open-access information. Discover opportunities for collaboration, volunteerism, and professional development.

12:30 - 13:45

#### LUNCH BREAK

13:45 - 14:45

#### JUMA AL MAJID WORKSHOP - PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF ARCHIVES

**MS. SHAIKHA ALMTEIRI; DR. BASSAM DAGHESTANI**

This session offers an in-depth look at the preservation and restoration techniques developed at the Juma Al Majid Center for Culture and Heritage, a renowned institution dedicated to safeguarding historical documents and rare books in the Arab world. Specialists from the Center will share expertise on methods used to restore aged, fragile materials and prevent degradation, with a focus on environmental controls, material conservation, and innovative restoration practices suited to diverse climates. Attendees will also learn about the Center's approach to training and skill development in preservation. This workshop is ideal for archivists, conservators, and librarians seeking practical knowledge on extending the life of invaluable collections while maintaining their historical integrity.

15:00 - 16:00

#### THE ART OF ARAB DRESS WITH THE ZAY INITIATIVE

**DR. REEM TARIQ EL MUTWALILI**

Dr Reem Tariq El Mutwalli is a published author with over 40 years' experience in art and cultural heritage. With a collection of historic dress that spans the Arab world, from the UAE and Gulf region to the Levant and North Africa, the Zay Initiative seeks to promote an understanding of the development of regional culture and preserve this unique heritage. Join Dr Reem as she showcases some of the most exquisite parts of her collection and takes us through her journey of collecting.



