



The MaLIA Register of Library and Information Professionals

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Malta Library and Information Association (MaLIA)

Launch held at the University of Malta Library

16 May 2007



Background

- The MaLIA Statute stipulates that, amongst its objectives, MaLIA has to:
 - maintain a register of qualified librarians.
- A Register of Qualified Librarians was in fact kept by MaLIA but has not been updated for some years.
- MaLIA Council has felt the need to revamp and re-launch this Register.
- Work on this project has been going on for the past 2 years. Various members have contributed with their input at different stages.



Why is the Register important?

- Provides a list of qualified library and information workers
- Enhances the profile of our profession
- Serves as an important tool for the association
- Serves as a reference for authorities and employers



Why be in the register?

- Enhances the possibility of recognition of the profession
- Increases awareness of our work
- Helps to dispel the myth that anyone can work in a library
- Improves employment possibilities
- Is a tool for better working conditions
- Make use of post nominal



Requirements

- The requirements are stipulated in the Bye-laws.
- These bye-laws include:
 - Introduction
 - Route A: University Qualified Library and Information workers
 - Route B: Non-University Qualified Library and Information Workers



Introduction

- The Register will include a list of library and information professionals with details about their qualification, experience and position.
- This can include anyone with a university qualification in library, information and archival studies.
- An alternative route for non-university qualified library and information workers is also being offered.
- The new name of the register reflects the changing nature of our profession.



Appointment of Registrar

- The Registrar will maintain the Register and oversee all applications.
- The Registrar will work in cooperation with the MaLIA Council on all aspects concerning the Register.
- Dr. Lillian Sciberras has accepted to be the first Registrar of the Register of Library and Information Professionals.



Route A

- Route A is open for all University qualified library, information and/or archival workers.
- All candidates must be MaLIA members.
- Authenticated copies of qualifications must be enclosed with the Application Form.
- The Registration Fee is Lm20 (one-time payment).
- Re-registration fee is Lm10.
- All the information required is listed in point 4 of the bye-laws.



Route B

- Route B is open to all library, information and archives workers who:
 - Have completed training in library, information and/or archival studies of sufficiently high level but below a university level.
 - Have been employed for five years full-time or seven years part-time in the library, information, archives field.
 - Have been MaLIA members for at least one year.
- MaLIA members who meet the requirements above can apply for access through Route B
- Includes the preparation of a professional development report.



Professional Development Report

- Has to demonstrate a satisfactorily high level of professional competence and awareness.
- Essential elements of the professional management of libraries/archives/information-intensive organisations should be brought out.
- The requirements for the report are listed under point 8 of the bye-laws.



Route B Applications

- All accepted applications for Route B will entail the assigning of a Supervisor for each applicant.
- The appointed Supervisor must be on the Register.
- His/her duty is to guide the candidate in the preparation of the report.
- The Report is to be submitted within a year of application.
- Assessment of submitted reports will be made by a Board made up of the Registrar, the MaLIA Chairperson (or Deputy) and another member appointed by Council.



General notes

- Unsuccessful candidates may re-apply after a lapse of one year.
- A third attempt may only be made after five years have passed since the last attempt. No further attempts will be considered.
- The Registrar shall, by not later than 31 January each year, transmit to the relevant Ministry a certified copy of the register, as at 31 December of the preceding year.



Discussion
