



March 24, 2011

Dear JSLA leaders and members,

I hope you will accept this letter as an expression of my deepest sympathies in this time of great difficulty for Japan. I can scarcely imagine the extent to which Japanese life is affected by the earthquake, tsunami, and the ensuing nuclear energy crisis.

Your collective response to loss of this magnitude is testament to the strength of not only your country, but of your resiliency as a people. In the days since the onset of disaster, you have shown the world your ability to come together and recover, perhaps bending, but never breaking. I have faith that your display of resiliency and strength in this time of loss will continue both within your families and also in rebuilding your workplaces, when the time is appropriate.

Over the past few years, I have been fortunate enough to enjoy the strong relationship that has been established between Special Libraries Association and JSLA. I am forever grateful for this relationship, and the friendships that have resulted from it, and hope you will receive my concern with the sincerity that has characterized our bond in past years.

I have received word that many libraries of JSLA and SLA members have been affected. I now hope that you will view SLA as more than just a working partner, but as a source of personal and emotional support during the rebuilding process. On behalf of SLA's Board of Directors and members in 75 countries around the world, I wish to let you know that Japan, its people, and its libraries are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Janice R. Lachance
Chief Executive Officer
SLA