

Library and Information Association of
South Africa



LIASA National Office
P.O. Box 1598
Pretoria 0001

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY LIBRARIES INTEREST GROUP (PACLIG)

ANNUAL REPORT: September 2007 –
August 2008

Compiled by: Marina van Wyk
Chairperson: PACLIG

Date: 2008/09/01

1. VISION, MISSION AND AIMS FOR PACLIG:

The Constitution of PACLIG is subordinate to the Constitution of the Association and therefore the purpose of PACLIG is to contribute to the achievement of the vision, mission and aims of the association as stated in the LIASA National Constitution.

Aims and objectives of PACLIG

- To support and promote the aims and objectives of the Association;
- To unite library and information workers interested in furthering and improving public and community library services throughout South Africa;
- To provide for the exchange of new ideas and experiences among members at national and regional workshops, meetings and conferences;
- To liaise and co-operate with other groups and organizations in the advancement of public and community library and information services;
- To advocate for, and address all issues, which are of importance to and which affect public and community libraries;
- To advocate for the enhancement and development of public and community librarians;
- To commit to quality public community library services, which benefit the general public.
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2. PARTICULARS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BRANCH CONVENORS

2.1 National Executive Committee

<u>PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NAME</u>
CHAIRPERSON	Marina van Wyk
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Ronel Jacobs
SECRETARY	Therese Els
TREASURER	Renett Bam
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER	Flippie van der Walt
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	Linda Jack
ADDITIONAL MEMBER	Sharon Brijmohan

2.2 Branch Conveners for the period reporting has been:

Gauteng North	Theresa Els
Gauteng South	Flippie van der Walt
Free State	Boniwe Molupi
KZN	Avishana Kushail
Mpumalanga	Amanda Viljoen
Eastern Cape	Julia Ajah-Mvunelwa
Western Cape	Kathleen Laisley
North West	Refilwe Mothlabane
Limpopo	Steve Mokgaboki
Northern Cape	Fritz van Dyk

The new convenors that have been elected for 2008-2010 will be announced at the 2008 Conference.

Gauteng North and Gauteng South did look at the possibility of merging the two branches, in order to have a stronger structure. The decision has been tested, but due to a lack of response from members the election will take place after Conference 2008. At this stage PACLIG Gauteng North is busy re-establishing and Gauteng South is still a concern. The new Committee will address this problem.

PACLIG Goals:

The following goals were set at the strategic workshop in January 2008 and achieved:

- To coordinate and ensure that a PACLIG session is presented at the LIASA Conference.
- To present a pre- conference session on the Monday before Conference starts.
- To coordinate and conduct an election of a National Executive Council for PACLIG for 2008 – 2010.
- To encourage branches to re-instate meetings, branch programmes and budget for such activities.
- To ensure that branch representative committees be elected where possible.
- To get sponsors and publish a 2009 PACLIG/LIASA calendar.

- To launch a PACLIG competition, advertise and manage the entries to ensure that at least 2 members will be able to attend the conference as a result – unfortunately due to lack of interest, this did not happen.

3. **MEMBERSHIP**

This includes membership administration, recruitment and the design of a recruitment strategy.

The membership statistics as reflected on **31 August 2008:**

2008 Paid up members (Primary)	309
2008 Paid up members (Secondary)	64
2008 Paid up members (Institutional)	32
2008 Paid up members (Students)	9
2008 Paid up members (Interest Group Only)	16

TOTAL: **430**

Membership statistics as reflected on **23 July 2007:**

2007 Paid up members (Primary)	268
2007 Paid up members (Secondary)	73

TOTAL: **341 paid up**

This indicates a membership growth of 89 members since August 2007.

- * The new registration system took effect on 1 January 2007 and we now have an exact count that we can work with.
- * This is a very positive tendency as more members registered last year to be able to attend IFLA.
- * To have even more members register this year is wonderful but we still need many more members to join LIASA to be able to speak on behalf of the sector.

4. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND FUNDRAISING:**

4.1 **Policy**

A financial policy was developed in order to distribute funds fairly and according to specific guidelines. PACLIG financial status is looking very good due to the PACLIG CALENDAR Project. The policy is available and

will be distributed to all members just after the Conference. We need to spend this money wisely and according to specific guidelines.

4.2 Financial statements:

The audited financial reports covering the period 1 January 2007 – 31 December 2007 has been submitted and circulated.

4.3 Sponsors:

- Calendar Project:

The following sponsors have to be thanked for their contribution towards the PACLIG Calendar that will once again be distributed nationally to all Branches.

- UKS
- Sabinet
- Book Talk
- NB Library Services
- Exclusive Books – Double advertisement.
- Coverseal
- CSX

Without the support of the mentioned sponsors, the achievements of PACLIG up to date would not have been possible. I hereby urge our members to please support these companies.

5. **COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING**

Effective communication stays a problem within PACLIG Nationally.

Generally communication between the Chairperson and the rest of the Committee has been problematic, as members do not respond on E-mailed or faxed information.

5.1 Website

The PRO ascertains that all changes that are sent through are added to the website.

5.2 Calendar

The calendar project is not only a very successful fundraising project, but is also used as a marketing tool, displaying important dates related to Public Library Events in the different Provinces. Last year it was an even more important marketing tool as it was distributed at WLIC in Durban and the calendar was taken home as a souvenir by almost all the delegates from all over the world. The calendar featured prominently at the LIASA stand.

5.3 LIASA – in – Touch

The PRO was responsible for sending PACLIG related articles to the editors for Publication. Public and Community Libraries activities have been covered extensively in the different issues.

6. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Workshops:

A very successful workshop during January 2008 was attended by the NEC and the Provincial conveners. The purpose of the workshop was to give the various office bearers the opportunity to meet each other face to face and draw up the strategic plans that would take us up to the end of term in 2008.

Strategies were discussed, policies were finalised and very good ideas were put on the table. The first PACLIG pre-conference with the theme “Inculcating a culture of reading and learning” to be presented at this year’s Conference, was also initiated at this workshop. We hope that this initiative will be an annual event from now on.

On the last day of the workshop we attended a course on Blogging at the University of Pretoria and all the NEC members and conveners went home better equipped to communicate with their fellow PACLIG members on branch level.

Unfortunately the proposed reading programme competition could not materialise as we have not received enough entrants that met the criteria. Perhaps there could be some discussion at the AGM on proposals for competitions in the future

6.2 CICD

On the National level the CICD programme is again on track as the successful presentation of the Leadership and Management development Training sessions that have been presented in several Provinces indicates. Several PACLIG members attended and helped to organise these training sessions. Hopefully PACLIG will again benefit from this unit as soon as a coordinator is again appointed.

The CICD funds allocated to PACLIG that was still not spend were utilised to make the Workshop in January 2008 possible.

6.3 Partnerships

Partnerships with the different stakeholders have been identified by the NEC.

These are:

- Partnerships with Local Government and Provincial Library Services.
- Partnerships with DAC, NCLIS, SALGA. (Mrs. van Wyk has been invited to attend all the workshops by DAC and NCLIS in her capacity as Chairperson of PACLIG. This has been a very valuable partnership that has been established and Public and Community Libraries really received the necessary attention that it needed).
- Partnering with SALGA on different levels has also taken place, with the Chairperson being on all the SALGA structures in Gauteng.
- With Mrs. van Wyk being appointed as a member of NCLIS, Public Libraries will still receive the attention on this level.

PACLIG has been very successful in making our voice heard, regarding Transformation and Sustainability in Public and Community Libraries.

7. MEETINGS

Several Teleconferences were held.

1 Workshop: January 2008.

The above was well attended and also very fruitful. Time constraints and staff shortages, makes it very difficult to get dates that suit all the members of the NEC.

8. **BRANCH ACTIVITIES**

The Branches have tried their utmost best to contribute in their branches towards the broader goals of PACLIG nationally.

The biggest problem at this stage experienced by almost all the branches is the:

- Lack of committed Committee members.
 - Staff shortages in Public and Community Libraries resulting in poor attendance of meetings and activities organised.
- Eastern Cape
 - Representative was sent to the workshop in January – did not receive any report on further activities.
 - Free State
 - Flippie van der Walt presented a Literacy workshop at the Mangaung Municipality LIS.
 - Gauteng South
 - No activities reported.
 - Gauteng North
 - A joint meeting with the LIASA GN Branch on the 29th of May with the Theme – Come and learn how you can contribute towards HIV/AIDS awareness programmes in your Library.
 - Kwa-Zulu Natal
 - Avhishana Kushial reported that they had a very good meeting on Change Management during February – at least 60 people attended. They are planning to have an election and AGM with the KZN LIASA branch.
 - Flippie van der Walt presented a workshop on Literacy in July 2008.
 - Limpopo
 - They had a meeting to establish the PACLIG committee.
 - Mpumalanga
 - Unfortunately the local governments in Mpumalanga are not very positive towards LIASA and therefore PACLIG members and their activities. PACLIG National sponsored the Mpumalanga Chairperson Amanda Viljoen, which is also the PACLIG representative, to attend the SALW Launch in Skukuza.
 - Northern Cape
 - No report has been received.

- North West
 - No PACLIG representative committee is operational in the North West – some attendees of the recent Leadership training session at TUT were contacted to start a group there. They really were enthusiastic to do it and we hope to get a PACLIG branch started there soon.
- Western Cape
 - Their Chairperson Kathleen Laishley attended the SALW launch at the George public Library.
 - The PACLIG pre conference will be hosted at the new Central Library.

9. **CONSTITUTION:**

The workshop that was planned for amendments to the constitution could be postponed, due to a LIASA EXCO decision that all constitutional matters would receive attention after Conference 2008 and be addressed by the new Committee.

10. **ACTIVITIES ATTENDED BY THE CHAIRPERSON:**

25 October 2007	DAC/KPMG Consultative meeting, Pretoria.
4 November 2007	LIASA EXCO, Pretoria.
6 November 2007	PACLIG NEC Workshop, Pretoria.
23 November 2007	Teleconference – PACLIG Conveners and NEC.
23-25 January	PACLIG NEC Workshop.
25-27 January	EXCO - LIASA.
13-14 February	DAC/National Treasury meeting – funding model.
22 February	SALGA – Gauteng
24 February	Afrikaanse Taalberaad (John Tsebe), Pretoria.
7 March	Visitors from Denmark to Libraries in Vaal.

12 March	Meeting with DAC – Conditional Grant.
13 March	LIASA -EXCO
14 March	Rep Council Meeting.
14-16 March	Library Week Launch, Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga.

The national launch of SA Library Week 2008 has been hosted by Mpumalanga, It took place on Saturday **15 March 2008** at the Kruger National Park.

23-24 April	Inaugural meeting, NCLIS.
25 April	NLSA meeting.
29-31 May	LIASA EXCO.
9 July	Transformation Charter. Consultative Workshop, Pretoria.

**LIASA PACLIG NEC Teleconference held on Wednesday
23 July 2008 at 19:00.**

28-29 July	NCLIS, strategic planning.
31 July	LIASA EXCO
1 August	Opening of NLSA

11. WAY FORWARD:

Attending all of the above workshops and events, I feel positive about the future of Public and Community Libraries in South Africa and therefore also positive about the role PACLIG has played this year in contributing to these activities. I believe that the role of PACLIG and our inputs at the various levels of Government will become even more important in future.

A workshop for all the Conveners will have to take place before the end of 2008 or early 2009 in order to plan for the new term and handle important matters before Conference 2009.

12. CONCLUSION:

I think that LIASA PACLIG can feel proud on what has been achieved this year. Taking in consideration the problems like staff shortages, etc. I still feel that PACLIG has been visible and active in most Provinces.

I would like to extend my thanks to the current PACLIG EXCO, the Branch Convenors and especially all the PACLIG members for all their help, support and encouragement offered during this year. I also wish to thank our Local Governments and Provincial Governments who made it possible for all these office bearers and members to make a difference, by supporting their staff in participating in LIASA activities.

*PACLIG can only be as active as the members. My best wishes for the new incoming committee for 2008-2010. I know that you will serve PACLIG and its members and contribute to a well organised Public and Community Library Interest Group.

I thank you.

Marina van Wyk
CHAIRPERSON: PACLIG NATIONAL
2006/09/08