



Gauteng North Newsletter

Gauteng North Branch newsletter

March 2014

The Chairperson's Corner

Greetings

This is going to be a very busy year on the calendar of LIASA. Elections will be held for the BEC and also at the Annual Conference we will be electing new leadership. We encourage our members to avail themselves to serve the Association both at Branch and National level.

We also need to work very hard to increase our membership. The more members we have the stronger our voice as an association will become.

We held our first Branch General Meeting on the 7 March 2014. The BEC was also kept busy during the South African Library Week by the number of invites from member institutions. It is always wonderful to visit our members and interact with them. We hope to receive and respond positively to invitations from our member institutions.

We are also looking forward to increased participation by members in the activities of the branch contained in an Annual Plan of Action presented elsewhere in this newsletter

1st General Meeting

The meeting was held on the 7th March at the UNISA Library Muckleneuk Campus.

Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata, (Executive Director, UNISA Library) welcomed all present and encouraged members to be involved in the building of strong libraries and their associations. She further thanked the GN BEC for their idea of taking the meetings to different institutions.

Ms Segametsi Molawa (LIASA President-Elect) was the keynote speaker. She addressed the meeting and on "The state of libraries in South Africa: 20 years later". This was followed by a lively debate and interaction on the topic.

Mr Modisa Khosie presented the Gauteng North Annual Plan at the meeting.

Ms Martha de Waal also showcased her South African Library Week project at the meeting.

The BEC would like to thank UNISA for hosting us.

Programme of action

Event	Date	Strategy
BEC Meeting	13 Feb 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • POA
BEC Meeting	28 Feb 2014	
1 st Branch General Meeting	07 March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment Breakfast
First call for nominations for LoY	15 March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out first call
South African Library Week	15-22 March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various institutional activities
LiT	18 April 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June edition deadline for articles
World book & Copyright Day	23 April 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILLIG launch • organise a workshop on copyright & plagiarism
Leadership Weekend and RC Meeting	26-28 April 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFLA Trend Report
BEC Meeting	06 May 2014	Planning for meetings
PAIA Workshop	13 May 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAIA Workshop
HELIG/RETIG	30 May 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar: Librarians as agents for social change, community development and democracy
Voters Roll	31 May 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing of voters roll for elections of new EXCO
Seminar Report	15 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written report that addresses the seminar must be handed in
SLYSIG Workshop	26 Jun 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Meeting /School library
SLYSIG	15-16 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLYSIG conference KZN
Steve Biko Paediatric Oncology	18 Jul 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Responsibility project
LoY adjudication	18 Jul 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

LiT	15 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September issue
Support staff/PACLIG	29 Jul 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training/workshop
BEC Meeting	29 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
AGM	07 August 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership forms Speakers Posters Brochures Branch AGM and elections to be concluded
MAIG	12 August 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting
LoY	15 August 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing date for branch nominations
BEC Meeting	26 August 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting
LoY	05 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of branch winner details
BEC GN	05 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of names and details of new Branch Committee
RC Meeting	21 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC Meeting
Annual Conference	22-26 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme: Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy: continuing the dialogue...
RC Meeting	26 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Rep Council Meeting
BEC Handover Meeting	07 October 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handover to new BEC
LiT	17 October 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for December issue
International Open Access Week /National Book Week	20-24 October 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statements encouraging institutions support Library and provide links to Open Access week Information
Open Access Seminar	21 October 2014	
BEC Meeting	30 October 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting- preparations for year -end function
Year-End- Function	21November 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership forms

Check in @ City of Tshwane Library and Information Services (TCLIS)

TCLIS celebrated South African Library Week (SALW) on 27 March 2014 at Hammanskraal Community Library.

Learners from Tipfusheni High School, Modulate High School and Hammanskraal Secondary School and children from the local Early Childhood Learning Centre participated in the celebrations to reflect on the great strides that have been made since 1994 in the development of libraries.

The room was filled with joy and laughter as learners participated in activities such as poetry and speeches on how libraries change their daily lives. Nyanisi Mhlongo, a 14 year-old from Hammanskraal Secondary School, recognised the importance of having a library in her community. She encouraged fellow learners to spend more time in the library so that they can gain knowledge about anything they need in life.



Check in @ Saulsville Library

Saulsville Library held its Library Week event on the 18 March 2014.

Ms Ofentse Maaroganye, Functional Head in Libraries in Region 3 encouraged all present to join their local public library to improve their reading skills and have fun especially during Library Week celebrations.

Learners show-cased their reading skills, they rendered poems, drama and read books provided by the Saulsville Library personnel.

The speaker of the day, Ms Mumsy Motswai shared with the learners on the importance of reading and joining the library.

The library managed to reach out to 64 learners from Makgatho Primary School and encouraged them to read and join their nearest library. Learners were provided with refreshments, School bags with easy-reader books.

Collect-a-can advised learners on the importance of recycling waste and preserving the environment. Schools can also attend a Collect-a-can competition where they collect cans and invite the company to collect and enter a competition to win themselves R 25000. Library week offered Librarians a chance to showcase fun filled reading programs.



Check in @ Dept. National School of Government Library

The National School of Government (NSG) held its library celebration on 18 & 19 March 2014. The Principal of NSG Prof. Lekoa Mollo addressed the event and, in his remarks indicated that libraries have always played a significant role in educating and developing human beings. "As a learning organisation it is important for the NSG to utilise this opportunity to ensure that we have a well-established resource centre and knowledge management systems that are applicable to our roles and function as a School. For NSG to play a role in professionalizing the public service we will need to have a resourced library with relevant information" said Prof. Mollo.

The key note speaker at the event was Mr John Tsebe, the former Chief Executive Officer of National Library of South Africa (NLSA). In his address, he congratulated LIASA for choosing this day for the national launch around 21st March. In launching this Library week and all of us will work "together to do more and better" as custodians of published national heritage in our respective countries we are occupying critical positions. We are in the business of information dissemination. Information plays a critical role in human Life. Information is the key critical role

in human life. Information is the key strategic resource for human survival and development. Working together we will be able to optimally utilize our national libraries as centers of access to knowledge.

Mr Tsebe further encouraged NSG leadership and staff to embrace the culture of utilising the library. We are in the business of knowledge dissemination. Knowledge plays a critical role in human life. Knowledge is the key strategic resource for human survival and sustainable development. We convey to LIASA the warmest message of support and we wish you the best ever SALW for 2014. This insightful event concluded with prize-giving activities to NSG staff, and interaction with service providers during exhibitions. Our NSG library secured prominent publishing companies in the business of information and knowledge management to participate and exhibit their services to NSG staff. Amongst the publishing companies were Juta, Knowledge Resources, Red Pepper Books, EBSCO, Sabinet, Market IQ, ProQuest, Emerald, RexBooks and RegExpress.



Check in @ the Department of Public Works Library

The launch of the DPW 2014 National Library Week went full-steam ahead on 17 March 2014 as Deputy Minister Jeremy Cronin delivered his keynote address and declared the campaign officially opened.

According to Ms Naicker from Strategic Management Unit (SMU), this year's campaign with the theme: ***Celebrating Libraries in 20 Years of Democracy: Check in @ Your Library***, is aimed at celebrating our country's intellectual and literary heritage of the past 20 years and to promote the right to freedom of access to information.

The campaign is also aimed at highlighting the value of libraries in the development of the nation's intellectual capacity, which in turn instils the culture of reading in order to create an informed nation.

The campaign also showcases libraries as desired spaces for connecting people to reach each other, and provide learning resources. Libraries connect communities, government, to the world and its environment. It positions the library as a one-stop- shop for information at all times.

In his keynote address, Public Works Deputy Minister Jeremy Cronin remarked: "Our library is our institutional memory along with many of you who have been in the Department of Public Works for some time now. Without a good system, most of the DPW institutional memory gets lost. With the coming and going of Ministers and Directors-General (DGs), DPW is losing most of its corporate memory. This is where Librarians must come in, put systems in place to preserve the corporate memory.

The Deputy Minister recalled his youth days when he frequented the local library to empower himself with knowledge which enabled him to fight the apartheid system. But his fighting spirit saw him being jailed and being denied access to information. "When we were in jail in the 1970s, we were deprived of political reading material and knowledge of what was happening around us. That is when we discovered the importance of collective power of reading and access to libraries."

Speaking on behalf of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) during the launch, President Elect, Ms Segametsi Molawa outlined the background of the Library Week which she said dates back to 20 March 1818 when the first library of South Africa was opened which is today known as the National Library, Cape Town campus. In her address during the launch, Ms Molawa highlighted the significance of the Library Week and some of the greatest concerns of our moment, which include the burning down of libraries.

"On one hand, libraries contribute to the knowledge economy by providing access to global knowledge and information in different formats to advance research and the creation of new knowledge. On the other hand, the burning down of libraries during the service delivery protests over the past few years is impacting negatively on the strides made so far. Also the introduction of VAT on electronic resources will further reduce an already obliged budget for all libraries," Ms Molawa noted. "But all in all South Africa has the potential to be an information and knowledge society," she said.

This also being TB awareness month, Ms Mary Moroka from the Department of Health gave a presentation on TB awareness as part of information-sharing for the Library Week - illustrating and marking the most undesired states of TB signs that DPW family members should be aware of to curb the spread of the disease.

As part of the Library Week activities, the Department partnered with both internal and external stakeholders in various exhibitions where Public Works entities were also involved. The Library Week also culminated in an outreach programme on 18 March 2014 to Rakgotso High School in Hammanskraal - one of the disadvantaged schools which was identified and adopted by Public Works. The school has been identified as the best performing school around the area especially in Maths and Science, regardless of being without most learning resources, including a library. Public Works has already awarded five (5) bursaries to this school for University studies in the Built Environment professions in 2014.

In her address during the outreach programme, the School Principal, Ms M. A. Musane expressed delight in celebrating the Library Week with Public Works, which she dubbed as a resounding achievement in itself, although they don't have a library yet. She said she hopes one day the school will have a library, adding that hopefully the day had an impact on all the attendees. She further encouraged her learners to be focused and ensure that this effort yield the desired results, come end of the year.

Public Works Library Manager Ms Florence Matlala said that the outreach programme was aimed at creating awareness on the importance of reading and learning within schools. She committed to visiting the Rakgotso High School more often to ensure that the culture of reading is embraced and more and more students follow careers in the built environment to fill the skills gap in the construction sector.

In her address during the outreach programme Ms Vangile Manzini Director: Human Capital Investment (HCI) reiterated the Department's commitment to awarding bursaries to deserving students who want to pursue studies in the built environment sector. She wished the class of 2014 the best of luck in their studies. "We wish you well in your studies and hope that by January 2015 the Department of Public Works will come back to award more bursaries to you," she said.

In conclusion LIASA announced the Librarian's choice: Top 20 titles, 1994-2014 (In a chronological order), in celebration of the 20 Years of Democracy. Each of the top 20 books were written by a South African author in one of the South African official languages, published for the first time between 1994 and 2014, reflect South African life by South Africans, focus on issues of democracy or contribute to the consolidation of our democracy. They also examined who we are and where we are heading as a nation.



Check in @ Unisa Library with South African Poet Laureate Professor Keorapetse Kgositsile

From March 15 to 22, librarians all over South Africa hosted special programmes to celebrate the National Library Week. This year's theme was: *Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy: check in @ your library.*

During National Library Week, library and information resources and services were promoted at various community, public and academic libraries in a concerted effort to encourage a culture of "checking in" at our libraries.

This year's campaign theme showcased libraries as desirable spaces for connecting people of all ages to each other, providing access to global knowledge and information, advancing research and the development of new knowledge and fostering a spirit of enquiry and a desire for lifelong learning, among other reasons for visiting and using libraries.

It is in this spirit that the Unisa Library proudly hosted an address on lifelong learning by universally acclaimed South African Poet Laureate and special advisor to the Minister of Arts and Culture, Professor Keorapetse Kgositsile.

In her welcome address, the Unisa Library's Executive Director, Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata, reminded guests that libraries form an integral part of any society and that all communities should have access to and respect their libraries. She urged students to *check in* at their library all year round in order to discover the wealth of knowledge that awaits them – be it by walking into a Branch Library or accessing the online face of the Library from their personal computers or mobile phones: "We are all responsible for preserving knowledge and sharing it from one generation to another," she added.

"If you have not read a book by the time you are at varsity, you might not be able to catch up with the world around you," echoed Professor Kgositsile, as he urged young people to value the information and knowledge produced by their environment. "It is not enough that you cram sufficient material to pass your exams. To continue learning until the end of your life is a kind of journey to be enjoyed every step of the way," Professor Kgositsile said in conclusion.

Author of over ten books of poetry and essays, Professor Kgositsile was awarded an honorary doctorate by Unisa in 2013 for his extraordinary contribution to the arts and literature in South

Africa. He helped place South Africa's artistic life – and the impact of the injustices of apartheid – on the global map while living in exile in different African countries and in the United States of America.

For more photographs of the event, please visit:

<http://showme.co.za/pretoria/interactive/south-african-library-week-unisa-check-in/>



My Memory Library

© Sarah Blackstone

Imagine if I was given one moment,
just a single slice of my past.
I could hold it close forever,
and that moment would always last.

I'd put the moment in a safe,
within my hearts abode.
I could open it when I wanted,
and only I would know the code.

I could choose a time of laughing,
a time of happiness and fun.
I could choose a time that tried me,
through everything I've done.

I sat and thought about what moment,
would always make me smile.
One that would always push me,
to walk that extra mile.

If I'm feeling sad and low,

if I'm struggling with what to do.
I can go and open my little safe,
and watch my moment through.

There are moments I can think of,
that would lift my spirits everytime.
The moments when you picked me up,
when the road was hard to climb.

For me to only pick one moment,
to cherish, save and keep,
Is proving really difficult,
as I've gathered up a heap!

I've dug deep inside my heart,
found the safe and looked inside,
there was room for lots of moments,
in fact hundreds if I tried.

I'm building my own little library,
embedded in my heart,
for all the moments spent with you,
before you had to part.

I can open it up whenever I like,
pick a moment and watch it through,
My little library acts as a promise,
I'll never ever forget you

Source: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/my-memory-library#ixzz32KSLXoQt>
Family Friend Poems

Newsletter compiled by:
Mmakgoshi Prescilla Reetseng.
PRO: LIASA Gauteng North Branch
Mmakgoshi.Reetseng@ul.ac.za : 012 521 4527
Edited by Modisa Khosie.
LIASA Gauteng North Chairperson