

Letter from the editor

This edition of the newsletter is the first for the incoming Western Cape Branch Executive Committee. With all the developments currently taking place within the library sector and LIASA in the process of establishing itself as a recognized professional body with SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority), the 2014-2016 term appears to be an exciting time to be involved with LIASA. With this newsletter, we aim to keep all LIASA Western Cape members informed of important developments within the Western Cape branch and to keep track of events taking place in the province. The Newsletter Editorial Team therefore urge you to send us any news about events taking place in your library. Any news, queries and comments can be sent to:

news.bec.liasawc@gmail.com

Jeremiah Pietersen



Chair's Letter

Dear members,

It has already been two months since the annual conference and one month since the official hand-over to the incoming Branch Executive Committee (BEC). It has been a marvelous two years being part of the outgoing team: Najma Patel; Susan Hardy; Elmarie Waltman; Dairmaid Wessels; Yusuf Ras; Mercia Sias; and Laddy McKechnie, under the strong leadership of Ingrid Thomson. The incoming team have big shoes to fill!

The term 2014 – 2016 can only be exciting. Think about it: the National Library Week launch and the IFLA conference 2015 here in Cape Town. I officially invite every member to the Annual Recruitment Breakfast on the 3rd of December 2014 at the Simonsvlei Wine Estate. Renew your membership and enjoy the benefits of being a LIASA member. Our strategic planning meeting will take place 22 November 2014 with participation from the

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Upcoming events

[LISC75 Commemorative Conference](#)

27-28 Nov 2014 – UCT

[WC Annual Recruitment Breakfast](#)

3 Dec 2014 – Simonsvlei Wine Estate

Interest Groups.

As we stand on the shoulders of giants, we can only strive to make an impact in our industry and make our members proud! We, the BEC are here to be of service to our members. The Win Team is energetic and looks forward to engage in a number of projects, events and activities and to encourage members to support all of these endeavours. The success of the branch is dependent on your cooperation, collaboration, dedication and support. Let us make every day count!

Kind regards,

Samantha Bennett

Librarian of the Year 2013

Last year's National Librarian of the Year also came from the Western Cape. We asked her to give a last few words about her experiences over the past year.

It has been an extraordinary experience to be the National Librarian of the Year 2013. I have had the opportunity to not only showcase my sector, school librarianship, but also to remind the broader South African population the important role that librarians play in everyday life.

It was a whirlwind year of leading, motivating and being heavily involved in LIASA activities. I've also experienced reactions and opinions across the spectrum, from sour grapes to cloud nine fans.

If I had a chance to do it all over again... yes I would!

*Regards,
Theresa*



Librarian of the Year 2014 Flippie van der Walt

We are pleased to announce that the Librarian of the Year was awarded to our very own Flippie van der Walt from the City of Cape Town Library and Information Services. Below is a few words from Flippie:

I am indeed honoured to be the recipient of the 2014 LIASA-UKS Librarian of the Year Award. I am very grateful towards my colleagues who have nominated me and made me realize the role that I play in the profession and in the public library sector. I am passionate about my career and in developing the role that public libraries play in South Africa. I have made it my point of focus to lead and develop public librarians to be educators of information. I also feel it important to inspire public librarians to be proud of their roles in the community. Linking with the educational responsibility of the library, I cannot have developed a particular interest in Information Literacy and its value in equipping children with the much needed skills for development in information seeking for lifelong learning.

As Western Cape Librarian of the Year, I presented a poster at the 16th Annual LIASA Conference to the Librarian of the Year (LOY) panel. The key aspects were: Information Literacy; Mentoring and Leadership; Proud to be

Public Librarians campaign; and, the Educational role of the Public Library. To view my poster and read about more of my interests, please [click here](#) to visit my blog.

I have decided to attend the 2015 Conference of the Metropolitan Libraries Section of IFLA, also known as the Metlib Conference, with my UKS award. I was determined to participate in cannot this conference since I've learned of it from one of my passionate colleagues, Ninnie Steyn, Director of LIS, City of Cape Town.

The Metlib aims to be a platform primarily for libraries of metropolitan cities serving wide and diverse geographical populations. Members exchange ideas and information on a range of professional topics which include: library networks; buildings; automation; training; research; public relations; and service to special groups. The 2015 conference will be in Zurich from 3-8 May 2015.

Watch this space for more news on my Metlib attendance and experience. Hope to see you all at the Annual Recruitment Breakfast.

*Regards
Flippie*

Introducing the Western Cape Branch Executive Committee for 2014 – 2016

Chair

Samantha Bennett
South African Astronomical
Observatory



Chair Elect

Laddy McKechnie
National Library of South Africa



Branch Secretary

Mercias Sias
Drakenstein Groenheuwel
Library



Treasurer

Lisa Kistain
University of Cape Town Libraries



Public Relations Officer

Theresa De Young
Western Cape Education
Department



Additional Members

Bronwyn Erasmus
Western Cape Library
Services



Jeremiah Pietersen
Student: UCT LISC



Righardt Le Roux
PRAESA



Lorensia Thomas
Drakenstein Library Services



Zuthobeke Mvakeke
South African Astronomical
Observatory

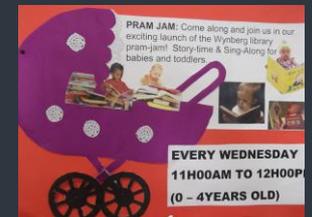


Madelein Koegelenberg
Stellenbosch Municipality



Wynberg Public Library Pram Jam

A story time and sing-along for babies and toddlers.



Pictures provided by Wynberg Public Library

Speed dating with books

Meadowridge Library recently held a "Speed Dating with Books" programme in conjunction with the SA Association of Women Graduates and Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa (PRAESA). The programme focused on mentoring 35 girls from Khayelitsha and Kraaifontein, it also included exciting games and competitions. It started with a librarian giving a talk about librarianship as a profession, the various fields of specialisation and the institutions that offer degrees or diplomas in librarianship. A motivational talk was given by Righardt Le Roux, a librarian from PRAESA, which aimed at providing direction towards a career in librarianship, overcoming social economic challenges and the importance of reading for development and success.



The most exciting part of the programme was when the learners had to choose books which appealed to them ("Speed Dating with Books"). The learners were given five minutes to choose a book, review and summarise it, then vote for the most appealing book. Prizes and spot prizes were handed out at the end of the programme.

The programme was initiated by Flippie Van Der Walt (District Manager and Librarian of the Year, 2014) and Jean Williams from Biblionef (to whom we give great thanks) who provided us with books for the girls.

by Natasha Marinus

UKS Roadshow



Universal Knowledge

Software(UKS), hosted a first-of-its-kind road show in South Africa from the 6th – 11th of November 2014. The four days were spent in four different provinces; travelling from Johannesburg to Cape Town, then Port Elizabeth and finally ending in Durban. We had tremendous support from our customers and other parties interested in library solutions.

Mr Rick Branham, the road show facilitator, is SirsiDynix Vice President of Global Accounts & Alliances. He was in the country to interact with our South African Library clientele about the new SirsiDynix product, BLUEcloud.

BLUEcloud makes Library Automation more user focused and modern with room to adapt to ever growing technological advances. The objective being provision of information, anywhere, anytime, anyhow to everybody.

For more information please contact:

Universal Knowledge software
on 011 375 4700
Or email sales@uks.co.za



Call for volunteers for IFLA WLIC 2015 Closing date extended

Dear Colleagues,

The 81st IFLA World Library and Information Congress will be held in Cape Town from 15 to 21 August 2015.

A volunteer corps of **300** is needed for this congress and LIASA is **calling for applications** from interested people to serve as volunteers during this time. While preference will be given to LIASA members with 3 years current consecutive membership, we encourage **all those with LIS experience** to apply.

This is an opportunity for you to serve as an **ambassador** of the profession and you will **meet and engage** with over 3500 librarians from around the world. As a volunteer you will have the opportunity to attend sessions during the congress.

You can now **apply and submit your CV online** at <http://ifla.soaconferences.co.za/> to be part of this amazing professional development opportunity. If you have already applied you need not apply again.

The closing date for applications was extended to 30 November 2014

Terms and conditions:

1. Travel to and accommodation arrangements in Cape Town and other related costs will be at your own expense.
2. Registration fee to the conference is waived.
3. Successful candidates must be available **2 days prior and 1 day after** the conference (13-22 August 2015)
4. Lunch will be provided to volunteers on days that they are working.
5. Preference will be given to LIASA members with 3 year current consecutive membership.