SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY WEEK 2013

Educate Yourself @your library®
LIASA National Office News

It is unbelievable how time can fly when you are busy. This is exactly what the LIASA National Office (NO) staff experienced during the last two months. The LIASA 2012-2014 Strategic Plan had to be updated and an action plan for 2013 finalised. This happened at the Pure Joy Lodge and Conference Centre over the weekend of 11-13 January 2013 and again the LNO staff members handled the arrangements for a wonderful, exciting and fruitful working weekend, where the Executive Council could get to know each other as a team, deliberate and finalise a very exciting, focussed plan for the year’s activities.

Planning for South African Library Week (SALW) 2013 is progressing at full speed and the official launch will be on Saturday 16 March at the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) in Pretoria. Working in partnership with the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC), the NLSA, Tshwane Community Library and Information Services, the LIASA Gauteng North and South Branches and some of our major sponsors, we will be able to celebrate this, one of our flagship events, in style. Requests for the SALW poster are streaming in and the plan is to distribute it to all the Branches as soon as possible.

The NLSA management offered two of the vacant offices at LIASA House to the Committee for Higher Education Librarians of South Africa (CHELSA) and since their representative, Ms Zizo Dube, took occupation on 7 January 2013, the LNO staff have established a good relationship with her. The new Membership Database is up and running and all LIASA Branch Chairs can now compile their own membership reports. On 22 January the NLSA had a gas leak scare and all staff members had to evacuate the premises. Our LNO ladies were amongst computer generated invoice via your e-mail address. Once the office has received and captured your payment, you will receive a receipt via your e-mail address as well as a membership card that will be mailed to you.

The different branches are now able to access their own membership statistics. Each branch chair will by now have received an e-mail from Hannelie Brink-Gerber with their log-in details. For any queries please contact Hannelie at the LIASA office.

LIASA’s growth depends on YOU! Join now or renew your membership. Do not forget to recruit members as well. There might be big prizes in store for you!

Manda Hough
Membership Convener

Membership News

The 2013 LIASA Membership Fees were recently announced at the LIASA 2012 Conference in Durban. As a special concession to our valued members, it was decided that the Early Bird Fees will be continued up until the end of March 2013 instead of ending on 31 December as per usual. As from 1 April 2013, the fees will be increased by approximately 5%. Until then the membership fees for LIASA will stay the same as for 2012.

Take advantage of this extended Early Bird offer by joining or renewing your membership on or before 31 March 2013 and still pay the 2012 fee.

As a further incentive, you may also utilise the 3 month instalment payment option when renewing your membership:
1. R132 the first month
2. R132 the second month
3. R132 the third month

Did you know that you can also register online? We have a new database now which makes it easier for members and admin to process the membership. Simply go to www.liasa.org.za and click on the “Join LIASA” tab. You will automatically receive a computer generated invoice via your e-mail address. Once the office has received and captured your payment, you will receive a receipt via your e-mail address as well as a membership card that will be mailed to you.

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Editor’s Notes

Dear Readers

I take great pleasure in introducing our new look magazine. Thirteen years and fifty-two issues later it seemed time for a contemporary and bold new image. The Editorial Team (profiles on page 19) invites your comments as to how you feel about it.

The Team would like to introduce some new features – see the invitation on page 3.

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Membership News

Membership Category | Fee
---|---
Individual Membership | R 395
Full time Students/Pensioner/Volunteer | R 230
International Individual Membership | $ 55
Africa Individual Membership | $ 55
SA Institutional Membership | R 1,800
International Institutional Membership | $ 245
Africa Institutional Membership | $ 110

We encourage you to take a few minutes out of your busy day to share your opinions, send us your letters and attempt our competition.

As librarians we are so dedicated to serving our communities that we seldom take the time to look at our profession and debate the issues that affect us. In forthcoming issues, we will invite leaders in our field to share their views on a range of subjects and hope to stimulate some lively debate.

In the meantime, let’s celebrate our achievements, commend our colleagues who work tirelessly to build better lives for their client communities and also volunteer our time and skills to building a strong and vibrant library association that can speak for us all.

Nohra Moerat
LIASA National Secretary

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LIASA-in-Touch: Official Newsletter of LIASA
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Dear Colleagues

Best wishes for 2013 as you embark upon new beginnings, strategies, projects, jobs, etc. From a LIASA leadership perspective, 2013 looks to be an exciting and busy year for us!

We kicked off the year with an exciting strategic review weekend held on 11-13 January 2013 in Pretoria, which enabled the new Executive team to get to know each other as well as share their expectations, ideas and plans for the term 2012 – 2014. Again I am most impressed and enthused by the positive attitudes and energies of LIASA members who are determined to build and strengthen the Association, redefine the profession and take the lead as librarians!

The National Development Plan (NDP) has emerged as a roadmap towards 2030 for South Africa. While it has identified proposals and outlined critical interventions for addressing the problems of poverty, inequality and unemployment, a mindset shift towards access to information, reading and literacy is imperative. For transformation and innovation to happen, we need to encourage reading, debate, conversations, ideas and imaginations, critical and creative thinking. As librarians and custodians of libraries, we need to locate ourselves within the ambit of the NDP and redefine our purpose and role in:

- Uniting all South Africans around a common programme to achieve prosperity and equity.
- Promoting active citizenry to strengthen development, democracy and accountability.
- Bringing about faster economic growth, higher investment and greater labour absorption.
- Focusing on key capabilities of people and the state.
- Building a capable and developmental state.
- Encouraging strong leadership throughout society to work together to solve problems.

The theme for South African Library Week 2013, Educate Yourself @your library resonates with the NDP priority of improving the quality of education, skills development and innovation. SALW will be launched nationally on 16 March 2013 at the National Library of South Africa, Pretoria, and celebrated during 16-23 March 2013. I urge you to actively showcase how libraries support individual development and education. We are extremely thrilled with the colourful poster that has been designed by a leading South African cartoonist, Dov Fedler, who through his cartoons has shown his sharp wit and understanding of current affairs. His cartoons have been published in The Star, The Pretoria News, Financial Mail and several independent titles; for further information on the theme and poster visit http://liasa.org.za/node/893.

The NDP is also an excellent conversation for the 2013 LIASA Annual Conference to be held on 08-11 October 2013 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. The theme is “Libraries in Dialogue for Transformation and Innovation”. I therefore invite you to diarise this event and prepare to engage in conversation with your colleagues and peers at this Conference. Come and present your ideas and experiences; network and be heard so that we can collaborate, initiate and innovate dynamic libraries and services towards making this NDP a reality.

In 2012 LIASA was invited, together with other interested library associations on the continent, to submit a bid to host the 2015 IFLA/World Library and Information Congress in Cape Town. Naomi Haasbroek, together with the Western Cape Convention Bureau, submitted an extremely professional bid book which resulted in a request to visit Cape Town by an IFLA delegation. I can share with you the excellent site visit and discussions held with the IFLA delegation during 13-15 February 2013 in Cape Town. The result will be announced at the IFLA/WLIC in Singapore in August 2013. We will keep you informed of developments as we know this will be an opportunity not to be missed by our members.

So colleagues do not underestimate the importance of your job, your library and the impact we are making. Celebrate and speak about the value we are adding to developing our beautiful country.
A number of academic libraries in South Africa have, or are in the process of implementing one of a number of available discovery tools. As the name implies, these tools primarily exist to facilitate the discovery of resources most relevant to a user’s particular needs, from among the many Internet-accessible resources available. Thus mostly concerned with access to full text mediated by dynamic linking services, or access to optional or associated services, the users are provided with a plethora of information resources and services. The unfortunate truth, however, is that we are facilitating discoverability and access mostly to the same resources that we previously had access to already, albeit now through a purported single interface.

As individual institutions, our primary function is to aid in fulfilling the scholarly values and objectives of each respective institution. This function translates to the national research agenda, and our area of responsibilities in ensuring that a wider range of relevant and current materials are accessible to the South African and international research environment. The challenge that we as South African academic librarians face, is to proactively identify those resources that either are not in digital format, or might be available in digital format, but the delivery platform does not conform to relevant and enabling international standards. In both these cases discoverability is limited, possibly even nonexistent.

As but one example, there are a number of highly valuable resources, especially in the form of research council reports and publications that are not currently discoverable on any of the discovery platforms, irrespective of the nature of the search and/or index mechanisms employed by these discovery tools.

I am of the opinion that the preference of discovery tool will, in the future, not be overly concerned with interoperability and functionality, but will be based on the range and depth of the resources discoverable on these platforms. Academic librarians are central to the information provisioning processes and we should not rely solely on the abilities of the platform vendors to negotiate access to resources. It is part of our mandate to collectively ensure that all resources of national, international and institutional interest, be made accessible across the scope of information retrieval mechanisms. If not, we will only be investing in retrieval platforms that provide our research and teaching constituencies with more of the same.

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A LIASA member writes to us from Saudi Arabia...

Good morning LIASA staff

I was in my final year of undergraduate studies when library students were asked to become LIASA members at a special student fee. After my studies, I became an inactive member, and I went to work in an academic library. Librarians around me were renewing their LIASA membership and were always looking forward to the Early Bird breakfast and LIASA membership special. They would attend conferences and lectures exclusively for LIASA members. Many of those lectures could have provided me with insightful knowledge to serve the patrons better in my profession. However, I still failed to renew my membership. I was still asking myself, what LIASA did for me. Do I gain any benefit from joining LIASA?

There did come a time when I did renew my membership. I wanted to attend IFLA in Durban but there was one condition; I had to be a LIASA member to have the possibility to attend IFLA. Now there was my motivation. I immediately renewed my membership. I started with my Master’s Degree and again failed to renew my membership. The LIASA conference came up and Prolissa and another LIASA conference and I wanted to attend them all. I renewed my membership to attend two LIASA conferences and Prolissa.

The turning point came a month ago. I am now busy with PhD studies at UNISA and I needed a unit of analysis to build my case study on. My research proposal was ready to be evaluated but I lacked consent to work with street children. In August 2012 I decided to change the title, topic and theme and focus on another area, in line with the MDG, goal no. 3. I approached a unit of analysis in my hometown, but after weeks of negotiation I was finally told that they could not help me.

I was sitting with my hands in my hair, wondering what now. I immediately went on LIASA’s homepage, searched their “contact us” details and emailed LIASA with a letter of a plea for help. Hannelie Brink-Gerber responded to my email, and that very same afternoon I had emailed LIASA, I received a response. I was introduced to wonderful librarians and the Manager of Emfuleni Library and Information Service. I found my unit of analysis and an answer to my question, “what did LIASA do for me?”. I will renew my membership for 2013 and when I do that, LIASA must confirm it. I urge all you non active members or expired members to renew your membership with me. If you seek action, adventure, empowerment, knowledge and opportunities as a librarian/knowledge specialist, seek no further as LIASA will give you that and more.

Greeting from Saudi Arabia.

Lindall Adams, Harbor Library Manager

Dear Readers

The LIASA-in-Touch management team invites you to give us feedback about the content and appearance of the magazine. We strive to involve our community of readers, because it is after all YOUR ASSOCIATION’S, and therefore it’s members’, official mouthpiece.

You are also invited to submit letters (via e-mail), articles and other items relevant to the South African library community.

We also want to test our readers’ opinions about various aspects of the South African library environment, and we will start with a poll on home languages.

Please feel free to participate in this poll.

Language

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Competition

We would also like to introduce a competition page, and you may also suggest some possibilities to us regarding this. The first is a Dewey Decimal Competition.

Write a short biographical essay about yourself (not more than 150 words) by using as many Dewey numbers (and not words) as possible.

For example: I am a 020.92. I read 839.7374 and I enjoy listening to 782.42166. I live in ~682.

Please email all your comments, suggestions, poll and competition entries to Gert de Jager (djaggej@unisa.ac.za).

The winners of the competition will be announced in the next LIASA-in-Touch.
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RDA implementation in South Africa

RDA: Resource Description and Access is the new cataloguing standard that will replace the internationally accepted standard for the description of all library materials, the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules. RDA provides guidelines on cataloguing digital resources and a stronger emphasis on helping users find, identify, select and obtain the information they want. RDA also supports clustering of bibliographic records to show relationships between works and their creators, which will make users more aware of a work’s different editions, translations or physical formats. The development of RDA recognizes that libraries now operate in a digital, web based environment that involves relationships with metadata creators and users outside the library sector.

With the publication of the final draft of RDA in November 2008, the Bibliographic Services Programme at the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) was tasked to form a professional committee to inform the South African cataloguing community about RDA. The subsequent work of a South African RDA pioneering group, consisting of various role players in the field of cataloguing, resulted in the July 2009 NLSA/RDA Lecture Series. The RDA-SA Steering Committee has since been established and several meetings were held between November 2010 and November 2012. Four Sub-Committees have been formed to address the areas of Communication; Implementation; Training; and Provincial Infrastructures. The Steering Committee decided in principle during April 2012 to implement RDA in South Africa through a phased and voluntary approach. Widespread adoption of RDA is expected in the U.S. and elsewhere during 2013 and official implementation within the South African cataloguing community (inclusive of training), would be phased in from 2013, to be concluded on April 1, 2016. A number of South African libraries participate in international cooperative cataloguing projects, such as OCLC WorldCat.

National Libraries of Africa:

NatLib Africa Project at the NLSA

The National Library of South Africa (NLSA) was tasked with establishing a database of national libraries in Africa at the 2007 IFLA World Library and Information Congress, which was held in Durban. Douwe Drijfhout from the NLSA is in charge of this project, whose objectives are to mobilise national libraries in Africa, in order to work towards setting up a forum of African national libraries, or any equivalent institutions which have the same special responsibilities within a nation’s library and information system. Depending on the country, these may include the collection of the national documentation output in any format, and its cataloguing and preservation, ideally leading to the production of a national bibliography. It follows, therefore, that legal deposit must be of fundamental importance for national libraries. National libraries also often serve as a national forum for international programmes and projects. They are therefore well placed to propose best practices in the creative use of emerging technologies, international collaboration and library advocacy from a global perspective. The use of social media to promote library services is a good example of the possible outcomes of such a forum.

Should a continental forum of African national libraries be established, such outcomes would be enhanced, and the visibility of those libraries would be amplified at the national and international level. This is what happened for CENL1, for the national libraries in Europe, CDNL2O, for those in Asia and Oceania, and for ABINIA3, for the national libraries of Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries in Europe and Latin America. No such organization exists yet for African countries.

The existing associations are based on regional facets; such is the case of the Mediterranean Libraries organization, which includes countries from Europe, Africa and Asia. Linguistic preferences play a role in AIFBD, the International French-speaking Association of Librarians and Documentalists, which includes countries from Europe, Africa and North America.

The NatLib Africa project is ongoing, and it was encouraging to find that different incumbents and stakeholders in National Libraries, or equivalent institutions, responded favourably to the latest round of requests for up-to-date information, as well as to the vision of a forum of National Libraries. Some of the participants in the African Public Libraries Summit, which took place in Johannesburg in September 2012, were at the head of the National Libraries, National Library Services, or National Documentation Centres in their respective countries. They expressed their interest in the idea of such a forum which was mooted by Mr John Tsebe, National Librarian/CEO of the NLSA. Some of them also had time to visit the NLSA in Pretoria, and put forward their own ideas on how to implement the project. Mr Tsebe is also the current chair of CDNL, the Conference of Directors of National Libraries, an independent association of chief executives of national libraries from all over the world.

It is possible to access the NatLib Africa database on the NLSA website under Data bases and Digital Collections, or on the Web: http://nlsahopta.nlsa.ac.za/nla/index.html

1. CENL - Conference of European National Libraries
2. CDNL - Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
3. ABINIA - Asociación de Bibliotecas Nacionales de Iberoamérica, founded in Mexico in 1989
Preservation Training for Community Libraries in South Africa

Legal deposit books on South African traditional medicines

Prof Johnson handed over legal deposit books on South African traditional medicines to the National Librarian, Mr John Tsebe at the National Library of South Africa - Cape Town Campus. The books will be distributed to all nine provinces.

Andrew Malotle

The Department of Arts and Culture awarded a special community libraries grant for the development of public libraries in South Africa. The National Library of South Africa was invited to take part by way of providing training in specialist areas. Staff of community libraries lack specialist knowledge in how to care for their collections. Proper care of collections will enable them to expand the lifetime of books. Due to limited budgets school and other textbooks and reference works cannot be replaced easily. These books are often the most used items in collections. More damage is often caused during disasters due to improper planning and ignorance. It would be in the interest of community libraries in general if staff obtain a basic knowledge of preservation management principles. Training of community libraries in all nine provinces is undertaken. The provincial library services are encouraged to hold the workshops in rural parts of the provinces to enable staff from remote libraries to participate. Participation is based on one person per community library to maximise the number of libraries represented. More than 550 library workers have participated in the training. Certificates of attendance are issued. Services of a professional book and paper conservator were hired to compile a training manual, assist with drafting of the training plan and to do part of the training.

Douwe Drijfhout
Preservation Services, NLSA

Building a wind-tunnel for the drying of wet books (Robertson 14-15 Feb 2013)

Preservation Training for Library workers

The National Library of South Africa recently offered training to library workers in Kimberley, De Aar and Robertson. Training covered topics ranging from bookbinding, basic book repairs to disaster planning and pest management. At the Robertson workshop participants learned how to deal with wet books in case of a flooding disaster. During the practical session wind-tunnels were built for air-drying damp books, interleaving of wet books and the preparation of soaked books for dry-freezing.

Examples of library disaster plans were discussed as well as means of preventing library disasters. Participants were impressed with the informative presentations and enjoyed the making of their own books.

Wind-tunnel: (Robertson 14-15 Feb 2013)

Participants displaying their self-made books (Kimberley 8-12 October 2012)
The AVBOB Foundation

The AVBOB Foundation was established approximately eighteen months ago and whilst looking for a long term project, the Foundation’s Corporate Social Investment (CSI) Committee undertook a number of smaller ad hoc projects.

One such project was at a school in the Eastern Cape and in the process, we became involved with Touch Africa, an NGO with extensive experience in the field of assisting previously disadvantaged schools and as education was identified as one of the areas where the AVBOB Foundation should invest in, a decision was made to embark on a three year campaign to provide 30 mobile libraries to needy schools across South Africa.

This decision was based on extensive research that was done by external consultants which emphasized a dire need for a library infrastructure at schools in South Africa. The lack of libraries is further compounded by the fact that there is insufficient teacher training in library information technology.

A partnership was formed between AVBOB, Touch Africa and the Brightkids Foundation in order to roll out this project. Each school will be supplied with a refurbished shipping container, which will house a minimum of 2000 books to begin with, for Primary Schools from Grade R through Grade 7.

The school will have a “library committee” consisting of teachers, parents and community volunteers, who will run the library on a daily basis and the school timetable will accommodate library periods each day in order to encourage children to utilise the library for both pleasure and reference reading. Touch Africa arranges the training of the committee to ensure there is an element of skills transfer.

The project was launched on the 18th of January 2013 with the official handover of the first library which took place at the Shukumani Primary School in Tembisa.

A private School, Charterhouse Preparatory, based in Honeydew, Johannesburg, allowed their librarian to become involved in this project and she provided training for the staff and the library committee at the Shukumani Primary School. Touch Africa will monitor the progress of the children at each school from baseline research in order to provide reports on how the access to information has improved their classroom results.

*Marius du Plessis, Group Communication Manager*
Cape Town librarians on the move

The City of Cape Town’s Library & Information Services Department once again participated in the annual Community Chest Twilight Team Fun Run. As a department we have participated in the event for the past 7 years, having started with a handful of staff in 2006 and ending up with almost 600 staff in 2012. While 600 staff indicated their intention to participate (and paid their monies), there were much less that turned up on the evening. The growth in numbers is reflected in the impact that you make however and no one can say that we did not make an impact. Recognisable by our pink t-shirts we could be seen in groups throughout the whole race. If you have never participated in the Fun Run, imagine a crawl through the streets of Cape Town with a few thousand people and you have a pretty good idea of the event. The fact that you could see those pink t-shirts throughout the race illustrates the presence of LIS in the event. The Fun Run also stages a Best Costume event prior to the start of the race and our Central Library staff participates in this every year and 2012 was no different. This year however saw our pink-clad staff being called up to the stage by the sheer presence of their numbers, further illustrating the impact we are making in this event.

We have also changed t-shirts every 2 years with an accompanying slogan and this year used “Keep Calm and Follow me to the Library” as our slogan. As a charitable event, our participation extends beyond using the event as a team building exercise, social gathering and health option, and this year saw our staff, their friends and family contributing R19 200 to the coffers of the Community Chest, with a further R400 as an outright donation to the organisation.

Table View Library wins UKS Helping Hands award

Table View Library won this year’s UKS Helping Hands Award. Handed out annually to a library or librarian that demonstrates through a project that they are helping out their community. Table View started a project during this year’s Mandela Day celebrations called the “Knit a row ‘n go” project – to knit squares for blankets to be donated to an old age home in dire need.

Baskets of needles and wool was made available in the library and people were invited to knit just one row before they leave. The response was overwhelming – people brought in squares that they knitted at home, others donated wool and people offered to sew squares together.

By December they had 24 completed blankets and 3 more in process. The project has grown in leaps and bounds, does not require lots of money and relies on the generosity of people coming into the library and donating their time and effort to the project.

Sea Point Library wins Provincial Award for best children’s library

The Western Cape Provincial Department of Cultural Affairs & Sport on an annual basis hands out various awards to individuals and institutions in the cultural and sporting arena. The library awards have 3 categories including Best Public Library, Best Children’s Library and Best Youth Library.

This year saw 4 of the City’s libraries nominated for 2 of these awards, including Central and Harare Library for Best Public Library and Sea Point and Observatory Library for Best Children’s Library. The awards saw Sea Point winning for Best Children’s Library, there was no award handed out for Best Youth Library and Best Public Library was awarded to Franschhoek Library.

Sea Point Library was recognised for the creation of its Pram Jam sessions, an interactive session featuring music, stories and poetry. Started by Roni Snitcher after attending a session about a similar programme at the 2007 IFLA Conference in Durban, the Pram Jam has grown in strength and numbers over the years and what started out with nannies and their charges has turned into a social session that includes moms and dads, grandmothers and caregivers enjoyed by all, especially the children.
The latest results of the Webometric Ranking of World Universities, announced on 6 February this year, placed Stellenbosch University in the top position on the continent.

Founded in 2004, the Webometric Ranking of World Universities is published bi-annually by the Cybermetrics lab, a research group of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). The Ranking evaluates more than 20 000 universities worldwide using various web indicators.

The Ranking aims to promote Web publication and to improve the presence of academic and research institutions on the Web. It strongly supports Open Access initiatives and electronic access to scientific publications and other academic material. The underlying premise is that a university’s web presence can be regarded as an indicator of its performance and prestige.

Based on a composite indicator, the Ranking is determined by factors such as web content (number of web pages and files), web visibility and web impact. Elements which contribute to the calculation of the indicator are: number of links and number of pages on the site domain; the number of files in online formats such as pdf, doc, docxa and ppt. Number of articles, papers and citations in the academic domain, as well as articles published in high impact, international journals are also taken into account.

While Stellenbosch University leads universities on the continent, other South African universities have done equally well, occupying all of the top eight slots. University of Cape Town is listed second and University of Pretoria third.

According to Ms Ellen Tise, Senior Director of the Library and Information Service, the Stellenbosch University’s Open Access initiatives and institutional repository play an instrumental role in the transfer of the scientific and cultural knowledge between the University and society and increases the visibility of the University substantially.

The need for the radical improvement in visibility of the research output is embedded in the University’s HOPE Project. The Project strives to find solutions for international developmental issues, hence the commitment to sharing new knowledge with Africa and the rest of the world. A significant conduit for sharing new knowledge has been established via Open Access initiatives.

During the past few years, Stellenbosch University has made great progress in terms of Open Access. The digital research repository, SUNScholar, which houses the University’s theses, dissertations and research articles, has grown significantly. It already contains more than 14 000 full text records and approximately 32 000 bibliographic references of research output. The University also publishes 16 Open Access journals on SUNJournals. These initiatives are based on the aspiration of making optimal use of the internet to provide unimpeded access to scientific information.

In the latest release of “The Ranking Web of World Repositories”, SUNScholar was listed in 96th place out of 1, 654 international repositories. This is a significant improvement from the 157th position it occupied in 2012 and further confirmation of the important role SUNScholar plays to enhance the visibility of the University’s research.

Ms Ina Smith, manager of SUNScholar, explains “Research freely available on the internet has increased discoverability which leads to increased citations and ultimately enhances the profile of both the researcher and his or her university. In other words, with research freely available, scientific advancement and production is enhanced.”

“Stellenbosch University’s achievement in the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities bears evidence of the success achieved by the University’s Open Access initiatives. Indeed these initiatives contribute substantially to the visibility of the University’s research products on the internet and its usage, contributing to the University’s reputation of excellence” says Ms Tise.

More information and the complete ranking is available at: http://webometrics.info/index.html

Lucia Schoombee
Navorsingsteun en Kommunikasie
Research support and Communication

Stellenbosch University Library first in Africa to host the Berlin 10 Open Access Conference

Stellenbosch University had the privilege of being the first African institution to host the Berlin Open Access Conference in November 2012. The theme of the Berlin 10 Open Access Conference was “Networked scholarship in a networked world: participation in Open Access”. The emphasis of the Conference was on drawing the developing world, especially Africa, to the epicentre of the world’s knowledge production with the sharing of scholarly content as the impetus for this transformation.

The Conference which was organised by the Library and Information Service, received the greatest praise for the calibre of speakers and the quality of the discourse. Ms Mairé Geoghegan-Quinn, European commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, when delivering the keynote address, stressed that Open Access is a way of maximizing the economic value of publicly funded research. The Minister of Science and Technology, Mr Derek Hanekom, who spoke at the gala dinner, demonstrated South Africa’s commitment to growing research production and the sharing of that production.

Given Africa’s ‘marginalisation’ as a knowledge producer due to limited access to research and, given the lack of skills and infrastructure to facilitate the sharing of research output, Stellenbosch University had developed platforms (the African Open Access Repository Initiative comprising the repository platform and the publishing platform) as interventions to facilitate this sharing of output among African researchers. The hosting of the Conference and the launch of the platforms have provided the Library the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the advancement of Open Access principles and practice on the continent.

Dr Reggie Raju
Director: Client Services
SU Library and Information Services
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LiSLIG Free State visits the National Afrikaans Literature Museum

On Wednesday 6 February 2013 LiSLIG members visited the National Afrikaans Literature Museum (NALN) in Bloemfontein to learn more about its resources and services.

The curator, Mr Otto Liebenberg, received us and gave us background information regarding the museum:

NALN was officially opened on 24 March 1973 as the multi-theme cultural historical depository of Afrikaans literature, music and drama (theatre). It is a collection-based literature museum and as such is quite unique.

Approximately 750 00 individual items form part of the museum. NALN provides an information service nationally and international using these collections and resources that are sometimes not available anywhere else in the world. Their collection categories are:

- Books – more than 84 000 titles and 150 000 items.
- Manuscripts – different stages in the development of texts, as well as certain publishers’ archives (e.g. IL van Schaik) and authors’ archives (e.g. PJ Nienaber).
- Clippings from newspapers and magazines – approximately 400 000 clippings on authors, background studies, book reviews, etc.
- Magazines and newspapers – approximately 1 000 titles over 125 years.
- Sheets of music – the collection of George Payne forms the core of the collection, with additions from other sources.
- Posters and programmes – from literature, theatre and musical events and other festivals.
- Art – more than 800 items of sculpture, paintings, illustrations, costume and décor designs.
- Photographs and audio-visual items – approximately 50 000 photos in different formats, film, DVDs, sound tapes/cassettes, CDs and ±10 000 records (gramophone, long play, seven singles).
- Textile objects – theatre costumes, authentic clothes of authors and academics, curtains and carpets from authors’ studies, etc.
- Furniture and other objects – authors’ desks, chairs, book shelves, typewriters, computers; historical objects from well-known persons; coins; medals; décor sets; theatre props; etc.
- Electronic material – information on ± 50 databases.

After sharing all this information with us, Mr Liebenberg and some of his staff took us on a tour through the whole museum, visiting areas not normally open to the public.

This concluded a morning spent with people who are passionate about their work and their vision to preserve a valuable heritage for the generations to come.

Erna Mostert  
(Chair, LiSLIG FS)

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Proudly Introducing the LIASA (KZN) Leadership for 2012 - 2014

(Back Row: Left to Right)
Siya Nene – USLIG;
Mariam Natalwalla – RETIG;
Charlotte Mdhalose – Treasurer;
Tebogo Mzizi – Chairperson;
Romeo Mutamba – HELIG;
Avishana Kushial – KZN PRO & National PACLIG Chair;
Mandla Ntombe – National PRO;
Vanessa Reddy – Secretary;
Charlo Mdlalose – Treasurer;
Romeo Mutamba – HELIG;
Avishana Kushial – KZN PRO & National PACLIG Chair;
Mandla Ntombe – National PRO;
Fiona Bell – IGBIS;
Vanessa Reddy – Secretary;
Shireen Deoraj – PACLIG;

(Seated: Left to Right)
Joyce Myeza – National HELIG Chair;
Siza Radebe – Chair-Elect;
Lisa Kistain – Additional member;
Jaycee Moodley – Additional member

Coligny Library

Ladies with blackboards
The theme “Develop @ your Library” was so fantastic! Having different groups participate in creative projects was just one of the programmes offered in the Library in Coligny. Librarian Henriët van Loggerenberg and her assistants Amanda Rademeyer as well as Wycliff Mosala, assisted members with the “Black Notice Boards” they decorated. These Boards are useful items for the home and also make very nice gifts.

School children round a Table
Coligny Library presents projects and programmes throughout the year; from time to time small groups of children visit the Library for orientation, discussions etc. This group of children with special needs from the Special School in Coligny were introduced to the Library and Wycliff Mosala (assistant) also read to them.

Northern Cape

Storytelling at Judy Scott Library in Kimberley
Story sessions @ the Judy Scott Library are always great fun with Ms Carine Bylefeldt entertaining the young readers. She encourages interaction and the children thoroughly enjoy these programmes.

Mary Tlhomelang
Judy Scott Library
Knowledge is Power

Library Information Service for the greater Westonaria had quite an eventful week with philanthropist and Youth Ambassador Jarrod Delport kicking off his visit to schools in our area.

Jarrod serves as a Youth Ambassador for the People to People Organisation and has been hailed as “the country’s fastest rising star”. Scholars from Westonaria High, TM Lethlake & Jan Viljoen viewed his interest in their education and development as a great honour, undertaking to implement his motto of ‘Fatse leno la reno’ within their own communities.

During his visit Jarrod told youngsters that “we live in a world of addictions, economic collapse, global warming, racial and religious tension and little hope for our future”. Although he painted a bleak picture, Jarrod still urged his audience not to lose hope as “their future is held in their hands.”

He encouraged youngsters to become their own teachers, to learn something new every day but also to teach those who don’t understand as easily, saying “don’t become selfish; instead learn to help others because you want to, not because you have to.”

Jarrod stressed that learners must remember that what we do is based on powers we have on the inside; the ability to endure; the ability to believe in ourselves, to carry on and to make the best of what we have. “Don’t blame your circumstances,” he said “instead embrace them. We cannot win all the time; we cannot lose all the time either. In this world there is no such thing as a winner or a loser; in this world there are only people who try; who get up again, dust themselves off and move on.”

“To be young and grow up in this century is a true blessing. South Africa is rich; rich in money, rich in land; most importantly, we are far richer in our people. We have everything we need to be great, yet we fail to reach our full potential.”

During the floor discussion learners wanted to know from Jarrod which country is the best and he pointed out that South Africa was recently ranked as the fifth most prosperous nation on earth and that we have one of the most competitive job markets.

For him South Africa is the land of opportunity, the land of success “where if you work hard, it pays off.” He told learners that South Africans are wanted across the world because of their work ethic and desire to do well. He urged all learners to strive to become successful South Africans, remembering that “we as a nation pioneered heart surgery; invented the world’s strongest glue; broke ten Olympic records; been to space, and most importantly, invented the Kreepy Krauly and the braai.”

In conclusion Jarrod said: “It is important to remember where knowledge comes from, because with knowledge we hold a great deal of power in our hands. The power of knowledge is far greater than the power of wealth.” He said “a wealthy man who cannot read or write is just a wealthy man. To this day South Africa continues to have fantastic libraries open to all of us where we can go and open our minds to knowledge. Don’t think to yourself that knowledge comes only from the internet and cell phones. Wikipedia can take you only so far, after all, the works of Einstein cannot really become digital for they remain timeless in the pages of a book.”

Speed-dating with Books

In celebration of Valentine’s Day, Library Information Service for the greater Westonaria, decided to introduce teens to a good selection of books to keep them busy and off the streets.

The selection included books in different genres and spanning a wide range of topics. The books were arranged in piles at different tables and teens got to “Speed Date” the books, spending about 5 minutes with each book. Teens had to read blurbs, look at the titles and cover page illustrations to “find a match”. It was a fun programme with lots of laughs and the teens loved the light fun feel of the programme. They have already requested that a follow up over the Easter Holidays.

The most popular book was Escaping the Night by D. Dina Friedman. “Teens were asked to rate the books and we’re happy that we seemed to hit the nail on the head with most of our choices for the group,” said Righardt Le Roux, Programme Librarian.

There was also a lucky draw for three lucky participants.

Thabo Gama gets his eyes tested and Westonaria Library gets 30 new members in return

Thabo suffers from dyslexia and LIS Westonaria arranged with optometrist Esthe Lee to have his eyes tested to determine whether he needed spectacles. Dr. Lee performed a battery of tests free of charge on 25 February 2013.

Thabo became a fully- fledged member of the library after a reading programme was presented at his school and through his encouragement Westonaria Library is boasting almost 30 new members.

Grade 12 scholars engaging with Jarrod Delport @ TM Lethlake School in Simunye

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One Billion Rising Campaign at Westonaria

14 February 2013 saw about 100 people gathered at Westonaria Public Library as part of the OBR programme.

The event started off on a cheerful note with the Philani Development Centre’s choir singing songs and dancing, inviting all to join them in a peaceful outcry against the abuse of women and children. The library exhibited all kinds of posters made by various stakeholders and numerous speakers each gave their view on the importance of rising up against women and children abuse. The seriousness of this event struck when the reality of abuse was highlighted by the speakers. Poets shared with us their creative writing on the subject, each conveying the message that something has to be done to stop abuse.

Regional Magistrate Thelma Simpson, who delivered the keynote address for the event, has been specialising in hearing cases involving sexual offences against women and children for the past eight years. She said that it is important for her to emphasise that courts are striving to treat complaints in such cases with empathy and sensitivity since the victims are so vulnerable.

Magistrate Simpson emphasised that the fight to prevent abuse and violence must begin at home. Every household must join in educating their children about violence and abuse. “Speak out against a family member who commits violence against women and children in your home. Tell your children what is violence and abuse. Tell them what to look for. Tell them what to do if they experience abuse.”

Phyllis Malope, Deputy President of NGO’s in South Africa also graced the event speaking about the global overview of the extent of violence against women. Phyllis said there are “many potential perpetrators, including spouses and partners, parents, other family members, neighbours and men in positions of power or influence.” She pointed out that most forms of violence are not unique incidents but are on-going, and can even continue for decades. Because of the sensitivity of the subject, violence is almost universally under-reported.

Programme Librarian for Westonaria Library Information Service, Righardt le Roux, urged everyone to RISE to end violence against women and children. An anthology called “RISE” was compiled especially for this event to raise funds for local women and children who have been abused. 150 copies were sold and anyone interested in obtaining a copy can buy one from the Main Library in Westonaria.

The Philani Development Centre along with Tolerance Day Care Centre ended the OBR programme with a song leaving everyone inspired to RISE and do their bit to bring about positive change in the world.

Righardt le Roux

RISE, an Anthology, by Stephan Steenkamp
Some refer to her as the “little red dot”, but Singapore’s presence in the world today is larger than that moniker. Although small in size, Singapore commands an enormous presence in the world today with its free trade economy and highly efficient workforce. In fact, Singapore is a bustling cosmopolitan city that offers a world-class living environment, with her landscape populated by high-rise buildings and gardens.

One interesting facet you will discover about Singapore is an ubiquitous collage of cultures, where people of different ethnicities and beliefs coexist. Brimming with a harmonious blend of culture, cuisine, arts and architecture, Singapore is a dynamic city that is rich in contrast and colour. In fact, you can even say that Singapore embodies the finest of both East and West.

Invitation
On behalf of the National Committee of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2013, I am delighted to invite you to the 79th IFLA WLIC August 2013 in Singapore. We are honoured to host the Congress, which is the leading professional event for the international library and information services sector. In a world of exponential information growth, WLIC’s importance is underscored by the need for international collaboration to ensure equitable access to information and learning opportunities for every citizen. At the WLIC, information professionals have the valuable opportunity to share insights and shape policies that address global challenges affecting our local communities.

Libraries are at the cusp of technological developments that are revolutionising information access and use. Information has never been more conveniently available on so many devices and in many formats to provide a myriad of learning experiences. At the same time, this information deluge presents new challenges to processing, sense-making, and ethical use. Hence, libraries and information professionals have a vital role to play in harnessing the infinite possibilities that today’s technologies offer for information access and service delivery.

It is timely, therefore, that the theme for IFLA WLIC 2013 is Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities. Libraries have the power to be a positive force for change on multiple fronts. Libraries empower individuals with the resources to be lifelong learners, while engaging families and communities in collaborative reading and learning pursuits. To touch the minds and hearts of communities, librarians and information professionals must be connected to the local communities they serve, providing services that are relevant to local needs, and connect citizens to the world’s knowledge and creativity.

We share IFLA’s commitment to further the interests of library and information professionals and look forward to making this Congress a stimulating and memorable one for you. Located at the crossroads of Asia and with access to the fascinating troves of culture in our surrounding countries, Singapore is a cosmopolitan blend of modernity and multiculturalism with its confluence of diverse races, cultures, and languages. The IFLA WLIC 2013 National Committee and the Singapore library community are pleased to invite you to experience the vibrant sights, sounds, and tastes of Singapore’s cultural tapestry and warm hospitality.

See you in Singapore in August 2013!

Elaine Ng
IFLA Chair, WLIC 2013
National Committee

Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities
World Library and Information Congress
79th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
Singapore
17-23 August 2013 | www.ifla.org
First Announcement and Call for Papers

- 8-11 October
- Cape Town International Convention Centre
- conference2013@liasa.org.za
- http://www.liasa.org.za

“Libraries in Dialogue for Transformation and Innovation”

You are hereby invited to submit proposals for papers & posters that will focus on areas related to the theme of the conference.

The 15th Annual LIASA Conference aims to provide opportunities to debate, share, and learn from local and international professional colleagues and partners. All relevant stakeholders and partners are invited to participate in discussions and workshops around the proposed topics. Papers based on case studies and best practice would be given preference. Papers and poster proposals on topics such as the following will be considered for inclusion in the conference programme:

Libraries in Dialogue for Transformation and Innovation

Human conversation is the most ancient and easiest way to cultivate the conditions for change – personal change, community and organizational change... dialogue are powerful tools for developing the capacity for deep, authentic conversation in organizations (Deepika Nath).

The golden thread weaved into transformation and innovation is dialogue which allows for the creation of flow and meaning through and between people. Dialogue is conversations between equals; it makes the implicit explicit; it is a change agent in relationships to create new grounds for mutual respect and collaboration. Dialogue is fundamental in building collective meaning and growing a sense of community and, enriching the spirit of collaboration.

Transformation is interpreted to be the change in thinking, change in practice, change in behaviour, change in engagements with the goal of nurturing a culture of innovation for a vibrant and better individual and contributor to national and global imperatives. The library as the epicentre of knowledge production and innovation must stimulate transformation for an improved quality of life for all.

South Africa has been on a positive political transformation trajectory since 1994. However, there has to be an extension of the political transformation agenda to include the development agenda which must be underpinned by open engagement with and between all stakeholders. The quadruple helix, that is, the library, government, civil society and the corporate world must collaborate to inspire and incite continuous and sustained dialogue en route to the development and strengthening of the transformation agenda: dialogue and transformation must become infectious in a systemic way.

It is beyond debate that information is the essential ingredient for dialogue and concomitant transformation. The core business of libraries is the acquisition, organization and dissemination of information. At the base of the formal learning hierarchy, school libraries are pivotal for a strong educational system. It is here that learners, exposed to appropriate, supplementary and complementary information are nurtured to become critical thinkers and active participants in a knowledge economy. Reinforcing critical thinking and participation in the knowledge economy is the people’s university – the public library. At the upper end of the formal learning hierarchy is tertiary education which, again, is totally dependent on libraries for success in producing active contributors to the national and global knowledge economy.

The growth and development of the library and information sector and the country demands ‘three-sixty’ dialogues with all within the quadruple helix: through dialogue will South Africa come out on the other side as economically and socially transformed and innovative.

The following are the sub-themes of the Conference:

- Libraries in dialogue
- Libraries and transformation
- Libraries and innovation
- Best practices in libraries
- Libraries enhancing user experience
- Libraries as an agent of change
- School libraries and education
- Academic and research Libraries
- New modes of scholarly communication
- Public libraries and social development
- Libraries and civil society engagement
- Special libraries
- Libraries on the political agenda

The deadline for receipt of abstract for paper presentation and poster proposals is 21 June 2013.

To submit your abstract online go to: “Submit Abstract” You should also upload your brief CV.

For general queries contact: conference2013@liasa.org.za

Important information about the submission of Abstracts

1. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts for short papers based on practical experience, case studies and best practice. Priority will be given to papers on the main theme, although papers on related topics will also be considered.

Papers must be presented in English.

Submissions must include:

- full title of the paper;
- name(s) of author(s);
- institutional affiliation,
- full contact details of author(s),
- a 300–500 word abstract of the paper
- Each abstract file should be named with the surname of the presenting author, e.g.: Smith abstr1.doc

2. The abstracts of the accepted papers will be published in the conference programme and on the LIASA website.

3. Authors of accepted papers will be notified as soon as possible after 01 July 2013.

4. No correspondence will be entered into about acceptance or non-acceptance of papers.

5. The final version of the presentation (PowerPoint) must be submitted in electronic form for publication on the website by 27 September 2013.

6. Full papers submitted may be published as part of the conference proceedings. This must be submitted in electronic form (as an MS Word file) by 20 September 2013 for publication.

7. There will be a selection of papers presented at the LIASA Conference that will be published in a special conference edition of the South African Journal of Libraries and Information Science.

8. There will be a selection of papers presented at the LIASA Conference that will be submitted to the international Library 2.013 conference to which LIASA is a partner. The Library 2.013 conference will be held virtually from 18-19 October 2013.

9. This call for papers is for the plenary and parallel sessions of the Conference, including the Interest Group sessions.

NB: All presenters are responsible for their own expenses to attend the Conference.
Visiting American Marcus Eley takes Cape Town on a Musical Journey for Black History Month

Spirituals, ragtime, jazz, swing, and classical melodies reverberated through Cape Town. American classical clarinetist Marcus Eley shared his music and insights into African-American musical history live on local radio and in person with diverse audiences around the greater Cape Town metropolitan area. Over his two-day “target of opportunity” cultural arts programme hosted by the United States Embassy, Eley -- accompanied by pianist Mark Neiwirth -- treated patrons at the Consulate Cape Town’s American Corner, USinfo@Central, at the Central Library to a beautiful selection of music from popular African-American composers such as Scott Joplin, Duke Ellington, William Grant Still, among many others.

In addition, Eley conducted a two-hour master class with several clarinet students at UCT’s School of Music, as well as engaged with aspiring young musical talents from Chris Hani High School and the Hout Bay Music Project, a local non-profit that provides afterschool music instruction to youth from surrounding townships.

U.S. Black History Month provides a wonderful opportunity to connect with South African audiences through our two countries’ shared experiences of working to overcome racial inequality. Using music to bridge cultural and language divides, this programme promoted universal values through people-to-people dialogue. For some programme participants, particularly the young music students from Khayelitsha, it was the first time they had engaged directly with someone from the United States, let alone a musical talent like Marcus Eley.

Susan Dymond
Information Resource Center Director
United States Consulate General Cape Town

LIASA Portfolio: Reader, LIASA-in-Touch
Designation: General Manager: Libraries and Archives Department
Institution: e.tv (Pty) Ltd
Professional background: My library career spans a period of 24 years, starting out in the Public Library sector as a Library Assistant at the Grassy Park Public Library and moving on to Librarian (in charge) at the Adriaanse Public Library. After a stint in Training, Marketing and Outreach Programmes for the Gauteng LIS, I was employed at e.tv in June 2000 to establish a broadcast Libraries and Archives Department which today services all content producers and channels of the e media group.

Professional interests: I joined LIASA in 1998 and have served at both Branch and National executive level as PRO and was Editor of L-i-T (2002 – 2007). e.tv is a member of the international Federation of Commercial Audiovisual Libraries (FOCAL) and the International Association for Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA) and I use these vehicles to keep abreast of developments in broadcast libraries and archives.

Personal interests: Reading, theatre, cinema, music, travel and entertaining close friends and family Favorite quote: “You must be the change you wish to see in the world” Mahatma Gandhi
Contact details: 021 481-4615; 082 884-6275; nohram@etv.co.za

Rene Schoombee
LIASA Portfolio: Advertising Editor LIT
Designation: Information Facilitator
Institution: Laerskool Rustenburg
Professional background: My library career spans over a period of 22 years, worked in the Public Library sector for 17 years and currently I am involved at a Primary School as Information Facilitator and Public Relations Officer.

Professional interests: Library marketing, HIV and social responsibility of libraries, librarians and librarianship.

Personal interests: Reading, photography, movies and socializing with close friends
Favorite quote: “The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” E.E. Cummings
Contact details: 014 592-0528; rschoombee@gmail.com

Gert de Jager
LIASA Portfolio: LIT Management team
Designation: Cataloguer
Institution: Unisa Library
Professional background: I have been working in the cataloguing section of the Unisa Library for more than 19 years.

Professional interests: DDC, Institutional Repositories, Authority control
Personal interests: Television, Swedish crime novels, Music
Contact details: 012 429 3227; djagegi@unisa.ac.za
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