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National Office News
We are pleased to inform you that the following South African delegates and LIASA members were elected in leadership positions at the newly established African Library and Information Association (ALIA), at a conference that was held from 3 to 5 June in Accra, Ghana.
• Mr John Tsebe: President – AfLIA ;
• Mrs Segametsi Molawa: Chair – National Associations Section;
• Mr Mandla Ntombe: Chair – Public libraries Section
• Ms Ujala Satgoor: Chair – Academic libraries Section; and
• Prof Rocky Ralebipi-Simela: Chair – National Libraries Section.

Membership database
The LIASA Office (LNO) is compiling a database of membership information, a SAQA requirement for Professional Body accreditation. Members must ensure that their personal and professional information are up-to-date. Many e-mail addresses are inaccurate making it difficult to reach all members and share LIASA news.

Current membership statistics indicate 1,398 active and 357 inactive individual members, and 16 institutional members. There are 27 unidentified payments worth R20 000 from members who paid but failed to indicate correct references. Members are kindly requested to indicate their names and/or membership numbers when they deposit payment for membership.

ICT Development
Mrs Ina Smith, the Convener for ICT Development, has taken great strides in embracing technology and using it to improve communication amongst members, enhance online training and meetings, and ensure that LIASA institutional memory is preserved and secured for posterity. The following has been achieved so far:
• Installation of Big Blue Button Webinar software: This is a virtual conference software that the National office, Branches and Interest Groups can use to conduct training remotely. This, to a very large extent, resolves the issue of members having to be away from offices for training and meetings, seeing that a webinar makes it possible for people to connect with one another remotely through internet connection. The following webinar training sessions have been conducted already and gaining momentum: Professional Body Status conducted by the LIASA Manager, Ms Annamariie Goosen; Introduction to Open Access for Librarians; HELIG AGM and an Introduction to UX (User Experience).
• Installation of WordPress software for LIASA Website: The new and revamped LIASA website is available at www.liasa.org.za, and will be migrated to www.liasa.org.za by the end of July. It promises to present members with a professional, interactive, easy to navigate and easily updated website that members will be proud of.
• LIASA Mailing List: The new LIASAOline@googlegroup.com will become operational from 1 August 2015. Mr Ledwaba, the Membership Officer, is following up on emails that bounce. Google-groups offers many benefits, amongst others it offers an online calendar to be implemented by LIASA, lots of mailbox space is available, one can create as many mailing lists as required, and it offers seamless integration with other LIASA tools.
• EXCO has also determined the need to improve on institutional memory by using Google Drive to securely save LIASA documents in the cloud. A Google Drive account has been opened for each portfolio holder (such as liasasecretary@gmail.com, liasapresident@gmail.com, etc.). In this way portfolio holders can file and share documents amongst one another. This will also make it easier for portfolio holders to hand over all the documents as they assume new terms.

New Membership Form for 2016
• Members will be required to tick a box indicating their preference in the format of receiving LIASA-in-Touch - print or online copy. The move is aimed at saving costs and have fewer copies printed.
• Members will also be required read a link on the code of conduct and tick a box that says “I have read, signed and promise to abide by the Code of Conduct”.

A few heads-up:
• The 2016 LIASA Conference will be held from 3 to 7 October 2016 in KwaZulu-Natal, with the Theme: “Libraries in Action: Transforming and Development towards 2030”.
• The 2016 SALW will be held from 11 to 21 March, with the national launch held on Friday the 11 March in KwaZulu-Natal, with the Theme: “#librariesforlifelonglearning”.
• Open Access Week will be held from 19 to 23 October 2015 with the Theme “Open for collaboration”.

(continued on adjacent page)
Libraries for Development

Background

The month of May saw the start of LIASA branch seminars, where branches engaged in discussions focussing on the 2014-16 Presidential theme “Libraries for development: Action, Integration and Collaboration.” The 2014 seminar theme: “Libraries and librarians as agents for social change, community development and democracy” provided a solid basis from which to progress the conversation on the transformative roles libraries play in society.

“Libraries for development” bears reference to the Library and Information Services (LIS) Transformation Charter, which aspires to realize the principles proclaimed in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the Bill of Rights that recognizes access to information as a human right; and, that the government of South Africa is committed to economic, cultural and social upliftment and well-being of all its people without discrimination.

The current state of affairs

Unemployment

According to Statistics SA, the population of South Africa last recorded at 54 million in 2014, up from 17.4 million in 1960, is largely made up of young people:

- 66% of the total population is below the age of 35 years
- 8.5% are between the ages 10-19
- 24% are aged 15-24.

Planning for the future of South Africa needs to take heed of this and invest in education and development programmes that will cater for this young generation to ensure a bright future for the country.

In June, the month dedicated to the Youth of South Africa, discussions focussing on the youth were held on various platforms. Youth unemployment was the key agenda item as statistics indicate that this has risen significantly over the past six years.

- The office is pleased to inform members that Ms Nonhlanhla Ngcobo was elected as the new Chair-elect for the KwaZulu-Natal Branch. This was due to a vacancy that was created when Ms Avishana Kusial resigned from the portfolio due to her new work commitments.

In memoriam online form is available at http://www.liasa-new.org.za/in-memoriam/ for Branch and Interest Groups to officially report the passing of members.

Betsy Eister, LIASA Secretary

Various factors contributed to the state of affairs so the following four pillars were highlighted as importation points of departure in response to these challenges and to develop our youth:

- Skills and education
- Economic inclusion and participation
- Health and well-being of young people
- Nation building and social cohesion.

Low levels of literacy

According to the global literacy rankings, in South Africa, 94.3% of 15 year-olds and older are able to read and write. Yet this high percentage of literacy shown in the statistics is not yet translating to an informed and educated nation that LIASA amongst others is working hard towards building. The LIS Transformation Charter has highlighted the challenge of a poor uptake of the culture of reading in South Africa hence there are pockets of:

- Low or no education for marginalised groups
- Minimal at times or irrelevant skills accessible to 21st century employer
- Marginal research and knowledge generation.

Poverty

53.8% of people can afford enough food and non-food items but fall under the widest definition of poverty in SA, surviving on under R779 per month. The above mentioned factors, unemployment and low levels of literacy, are also contributing towards poverty.

Libraries for development

LIASA is striving to ensure that policymakers acknowledge the rightful position of Libraries and Librarians as active partners in development. The IFLA statement on Libraries and development confirms the major role that libraries play in making a difference in the lives of people. “Access to information is a fundamental human right that can break the cycle of poverty and support sustainable development. The library is the only place in many communities where people can access information that will help improve their education, develop new skills, find jobs, build businesses, make informed agricultural and health decisions, or gain insights into environmental issues. Their unique role makes libraries important development partners, both by providing access to information in all formats and by delivering services and programmes that meet the needs for information in a changing and increasingly complex society.”

“the National Development Plan is a plan for the country to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030 through uniting South Africans”. It is a long-term perspective that defines a desired destination and identifies the role that different sectors of society need to play in reaching that goal (Manuel 2013). The LIS sector is positioning itself well for contribution that will ensure positive contributions to the achievement of the NDP goals.

Action

The LIS has an opportunity to contribute to the economy of South Africa and make a difference in people’s lives. The huge responsibility can be managed if:

- All sub-sectors of LIS play a role
- Each member of the LIS sector contributes

- We maximise access to the resources available
- We build relevant set of skills through curriculum review and continued professional development (CPD)
- We embrace professional service delivery to the people by responding relevantly and pro-actively to their needs.

In line with IFLA, LIASA affirms that:

- Libraries provide opportunity for all
- Libraries empower people for their own self-development
- Libraries offer access to the world’s knowledge
- Librarians provide expert guidance
- Libraries are part of a multi-stakeholder society
- Libraries must be recognised in development policy frameworks

In addition to the six key elements of LIASA’s strategic plan:

- Leadership
- Membership and Sector Engagement
- Advocacy
- Marketing and communication
- Good governance
- Training and development.

The Association is working on the implementation of the recommended priorities in the transformation of the LIS sector.

Through incorporation and collaboration, access to resources will be maximised and the sharing of skills be realised.

Conclusion

Policy makers in South Africa should:

- Recognise the role of access to information as a fundamental element supporting development and
- Acknowledge the role of libraries and librarians as agents for development.

References


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president's message
The responsibility of the portfolio for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Development is to identify IT needs within both the LIASA National Office and the LIASA Membership Community. Once these needs have been identified, possible solutions are identified and investigated, and services are implemented aligned with the strategic objectives of LIASA. Through monitoring, implementing and setting the trends, LIASA would also like to encourage individual institutions to follow where relevant and where possible, for example hosting a webinar service to encourage dialogue amongst the library and its community, or between community members in general. LIASA supports open source software where available, and would like to encourage other institutions to follow suit.

During the past year great progress has been made in terms of LIASA ICT Development. These include the following:

- Transfer of IT services to the cloud
- Re-designing and re-structuring of the LIASA web site
- LIASA Governance using Google Drive
- Transfer of the LIASA mailing lists to Google Scholar
- Implementation of webinars across the LIASA community
- Implementation of Open Conference Systems to manage LIASA events
- LIASA ICT Policy and Procedures have been documented.

Governance

The portfolio for LIASA National Convener ICT Development is a new portfolio within the LIASA Exco structure, and the position is filled by an Additional Member within the team. The Convener works closely with all Exco members and LIASA Members in general, and specifically with the LIASA Manager and the LIASA Public Relations Officer (PRO). From time to time the Convener calls on expert members to assist with ICT related activities.

Transfer of IT services to the cloud

The LIASA National Office does not employ any IT personnel, and therefore has to rely on external and hosted IT services for support. Hosting the web site and other services in the cloud is an affordable option, making the LIASA virtual office available 24/7. Cloud computing strengthens collaboration, since it is easier to communicate, work and share outside traditional methods. This leads to higher productivity. Through cloud computing, unrestricted access is allowed to authorised users, regardless of time and space.

Hosting LIASA information in the cloud offers many benefits.

Source:

Re-designing and re-structuring of the LIASA web site

The LIASA web site has been in need of a redesign and restructuring for quite some time. The first step was to identify the needs of the LIASA community, followed by a decision on the best software solution to address those needs.

LIASAs aim is to keep the new web current and organised, but can only do so with the help of the LIASA community. Media (photos, video clips, newsletters and more) are most welcome, and all are encouraged to send contributions to the LIASA National Office.

LIASA Governance using Google Drive

LIASA official internal documents/information will in future be stored on Google Drive, in folders labelled according to the names for the various portfolios.

Through this approach the current LIASA Exco would like to put in place some kind of contingency for future teams to work with. The folders have been created on Google Drive, and current Exco members have been granted permissions to work within their folders, with the option to invite others to collaborate (crowdsource) where needed.

Transfer of the LIASA mailing lists to Google Scholar

A need existed to replace the previous Liasaonline mailing list, following multiple
issues causing many LIASA members not receiving communication emailed via Liasaonline. The mailing list has been moved from the Octoplus Mailman server to Googlegroups, and the new address to be used in future is: liasaonline@googlegroups.com. This list is a moderated list, and three administrators have been assigned to monitor emails and approve/reject emails to the list. Strict guidelines apply as to which email content will be allowed and which not.

Next would be to train Branches and Interest Group to create a mailing list for their individual teams, and to manage these lists. Through using a mailing list, all members are reached at once through sending one email using one email address only. Therefore the danger of excluding someone from an important message is easily avoided. The archives of the group mailing list can be searched should there be an enquiry about an email sent out at some point in time.

Implementation of webinars across the LIASA community
LIASA National has built on an initiative by LIASA HELIG, which is using webinar technology to present seminars, meetings, workshops, training and more to LIASA Members. It is a reality that it is expensive to attend events, and through webinars we are trying to minimise the financial burden on LIASA members, without them being excluded from further professional development. Following an evaluation of available webinar products, LIASA has decided on Big Blue Button, an open source product.

Source: http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_rF5eJn8NB_k/TOtr2ghFxjlI/AAAAAAAABvk/EPg483GIK7A/s1600/20users.png

We would like to encourage all LIASA Members to make use of this highly valuable tool which is available free of charge for LIASA Members. All that is required is a stable Internet connection and an e-device. Please visit the LIASA web page for more information as well as to view video tutorials on using it.

Implementation of Open Conference Systems to manage LIASA events
LIASA National, Branches and Interest Groups host many activities throughout the year. Quite a bit of time and other resources are invested, and it is important to have certain outcomes and demonstrate a return on investment. The LIASA Events tool – using Open Conference Systems – has been installed so that current and future LIASA Members can benefit from the many features and functionalities offered by this tool.

LIASA ICT Policy and Procedures
The LIASA ICT policy and procedures are the strategic link between the vision of LIASA, and the day-to-day ICT operations within the Association. The aim of the mentioned document is to clearly define which ICT is used within LIASA, and roles and responsibilities with regards to ICT. For the first time, ICT policies and procedures within LIASA have been documented and it will now go through a rigorous process to get it approved and adopted within the Association.

Conclusion
LIASA is a dynamic organisation moving with the trends, as demonstrated by the many initiatives mentioned in this report. All-in-all quite a few outcomes have been achieved within LIASA in terms of ICT during the past year.

The services and tools mentioned were implemented to benefit the LIASA Community, and the mentioned initiatives will require commitment from the LIASA Management and Members to learn and grow in order to succeed in the long run. Through implementing and using the services and tools, new generation professional librarians will help transform the library and library services into a dynamic and increasingly global digital environment.

Ina Smith
Convener for ICT Development
Access

South African Libraries – Open for Collaboration

Open Access to information is something all benefit from – some more directly than others. This year LIASA will once again be celebrating Open Access Week together with thousands of institutions worldwide. Open Access Week is celebrated during the week of 19 to 25 October 2015, and the theme for this year is “Open for Collaboration”. All libraries are encouraged to register their events on the following web site: http://www.openaccessweek.org/

LIASA would like to - in the spirit of collaboration – encourage Branches and Interest Groups to work together and to come with innovative ideas to create awareness amongst users. A few ideas on what to do during Open Access Week:

• Host a mini-seminar, and invite researchers to talk about their experiences on publishing and the importance of open access to information

• Utilise LIASA Webinar and invite a presenter to address your users – it can be from anywhere in the world

• Interview users on what access to a library means to them, record (with permission), and upload to YouTube

• Create an awareness amongst users of the many open online courses and open reading material available on the web

• Crowdsource a wiki with OA material – a possible collaborative project between Public Libraries and Academic Libraries

• Data is generated on a daily basis – by school learners and researchers alike. Share different tools that can be used to make data more visible.

• Create an awareness on Creative Commons Licenses. Even young learners still at school should be made aware of copyright, and the right to license their intellectual property.

• Spoil your users with an Open Access tea, serving cup-cakes with the OA symbol on it.

• Posters! Posters! Posters! LIASA will make available posters for download from the new LIASA web in due course.

• And many more …

Last of all – please take lots of photos and send it for upload to the web and social media! We would love to hear from all.

Enquiries can be directed to the LIASA Public Relations Officer, Nikki Crowster: nikk@chec.ac.za

RDA workshop for special librarians

Emphasising the ease of using the electronic version. She also indicated three useful books that one can use to understand and do cataloguing according to RDA.

Ms Raubenheimer explained all the aspects and components of RDA using examples to show the difference between cataloguing according to AACR II and RDA. There was time to do practical examples and she discussed the answers with the attendees.

The special librarians came to the workshop all very unsure about what RDA entails and how they would cope, but . . . at the end of the session there was on the one hand some relief and on the other hand still some worries of how it will be applied at their institutions.

RDA

OCLC WorldShare Management Services (WMS)

University of KwaZulu-Natal Libraries adopted a new library system, namely WorldShare Management Services (WMS) and went live on 5th January 2015. “A one stop shop” for all your library material, WMS is an integrated suite of cloud-based management and discovery applications. It is designed to streamline library operations and provides a cooperative library management service for acquisitions, cataloguing and license manager and serves as a powerful discovery and delivery experience for library users. It offers a “one stop shop” search interface for library users whereby a single search on the library catalogue can link users to wealth of information from books, e-books, journal articles and much more, both within their own library and worldwide. Hence, library management tasks are moved onto a single platform where data and activities can be efficiently reused in as many situations as possible, reducing effort and saving time for library staff.

University of KwaZulu-Natal, being a Premier University of African Scholarship, was the first in Africa to adopt the full suite of library applications of WMS. OCLC, working in conjunction with its local partner SABINET, in the African region, played a key role in the implementation support and training and will be providing ongoing support for WMS in Africa. Hence, the months prior to the go-live has been painstakingly challenging, ensuring that the configuration and time frame deadlines set out by OCLC were met. A project of this magnitude generally takes a minimum of six months to a year to complete. UKZN libraries, with the help of SABINET, completed this project in three months. The reason for this decisive action was that the cost of maintaining our previous library system was becoming unsustainable – hence this, together with a desire to provide consolidated access to all of our resources and make better use of our collections budget, played a key role in our decision to implement WMS. Despite these challenges, the project has been a success with minor problems and both staff and students have been excited about the new system because of its simplicity and ease of use.

OCLC WorldShare Management Services (WMS)

Mr Mandla Ntombela the Msunduzi Municipal Library Services Director / City Librarian attended the African Library and Information Associations Conference – AFLIA in Ghana on the 29 May to 3 June 2015. Mr Ntombela was elected Chair of Public and Community Libraries in Africa.

AFLIA is an independent, international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation, which pursues the interests of library and information in Africa. AFLIA enables all its members to engage in and benefit from its activities regardless of citizenship, disability, ethnic origin, gender, geographical location, language, political philosophy, race or religion. AFLIA further embraces the principles of freedom of access to information, ideas and works of imagination and freedom of expression embodied in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Article on African Charter of People’s Rights.

AFLIA is the trusted African voice for the library and information community, and drives equitable access to information and knowledge for all.

In his interview with Kailene Pillay of Witness Newspaper, 23 June 2015, Mr Ntombela put emphasis at looking at “transforming libraries across the digital-friendly zone and another aspect of his new leadership role is finding ways to draw youth to the libraries.” He will also focus on “uplifting the standards of libraries on the continent and in the country and find out whether libraries are still speaking to the needs of the people and advanced them technologically.”

Mzo Ndlea, LIASA KZN PRO

LIASA in Touch
Universal Knowledge Software @ 1st AfLIA Conference and 3rd African Library Summit

UKS exhibited at the 1st AfLIA Conference and 3rd African Library Summit held at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) Conference Centre, University of Ghana in Accra from 30 May – 2 June. The African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA) was launched during the 2013 African Library Summit, which was hosted by the University of South Africa (UNISA) in Pretoria, South Africa. One of the key objectives of the 2013 African Library Summit was to review progress made with regard to the implementation of the Framework for the Future of African Librarianship. This framework was intended as a follow-up to the work of the Exploratory Committee, which was established during the 2011 Summit with the task to investigate the formation of a Continental African Library Association, as well as to provide a platform for discussions on leadership development in Africa. Since then there has been a lot of work done by the Committee in establishing AfLIA. AfLIA will have a recognisable status at the African Union (AU) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) as well as other regional economic bodies in Africa, which will enable it to promote and advocate for the development of library and information services in all Africa countries.

SANLIC 2015 Conference

The theme of the SANLIC 2015 Conference, held at the Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre, Benoni, on 19th – 20th May 2015, was “SMART e-Resources: maximising your e-Resources.” In her welcome to delegates, the SANLIC Chairperson, Ms Laila Vahed, highlighted the need for libraries to make maximum use of their budgets, to apply the principles of collective bargaining and to work together and networking opportunities. Mandisa Lakheni presented a paper at the conference on the 31 May 2015. The theme of the paper was Addressing the skills shortage: A South African Case study. The aim was to share the South African approach to address the skills shortage in library staff and to strengthen the profession by ensuring that Library Assistants understands the theory and methodology in order to provide the services. Mr Charlie Molepo wrote the paper. UKS was proud to be part of this memorable event and would like to thank the conference organizers for a wonderful conference.

Soretha Du Plessis
Customer Relations Executive, UKS

Project COUNTER, shared with delegates some of the experiences of Jisc Collections and explored how library consortia can achieve SMART objectives. Other speakers presented on a range of topics including open access and author’s rights, changes in publishing business models, research data curation, budgetary issues, demand-driven acquisitions, discovery tools and digital publishing. The focus of all the presentations was on practical issues which affect libraries and the provision of scholarly information.

Nora Buchanan, Licensing Manager, SANLIC

SLA Conference

Boston, Massachusetts

In today’s information and innovation intensive world, I have to be able to continually redefine myself to face the challenges within the investments industry. The SLA conference was the ideal place to be as the theme was ‘Be Revolutionary!’

The keynote speaker was Leigh Gallagher, an Assistant Managing Editor at Fortune magazine, where she edits feature stories on a variety of subjects. Leigh’s key takeaways on how to stand out in your organisation:

• Market yourself – show your talent especially to the C-suite
• Quantify yourself (show them the money)

Stay ahead of the curve and innovate (be of the Uber for informational professionals)
• Lastly - Market like Coca Cola and innovate like Apple!

Although the conference lasted just three days, it offered a vast number of workshops and speakers exploring the latest trends, such as, “Building the resilient library”, “Developing a better web-based user experience” and “Enhancing intranet search”, were some of the topics covered.

The conference also offered ample opportunities to network among the influential delegates, such as Dr James Matarazzo, who was awarded the SLA Hall of Fame. He also published several papers, such as, “Librarians in the New Millennium” and “The Value of the Corporate Information Resource”.

Despite the hectic schedule and meeting the various exhibitors, there was some time to take the metro to Cambridge and stroll along Harvard University. It was the perfect way to end the trip to Boston.

Sandra Narismulu
Sanlam Investments information professional

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World Book Day 2015

The Provincial event for World Book Day 2015 took place in Kroonstad at the Kroonstad Civic Centre. Boniwe Molupi of the Free State Provincial Library Service was the Programme Director. The tradition of celebrating books was begun in 1923 by Spanish booksellers and it eventually culminated in UNESCO launching World Book Day in 1995. It is a special annual event celebrating books and reading.

Since 2014 the Free State Provincial Library Service has been running programmes in libraries. Local authors in various towns and districts are identified and invited to attend World Book Day to introduce themselves and market their books to the community. The Provincial Library Service supports local authors. They need to be encouraged to continue writing. Reading and writing are skills that need to be developed. One of the speakers at this year’s event, Peter Gathenge, said that reading is for the brain as much as food is for the body. Unread books are a waste of resources. Education and reading move the world. The keynote address was delivered by Sy Mokadi, who told the audience that South Africa is a nation that does not read: “We are not smart, because we do not read. Reading is learning. Learning is a journey of self-discovery, unlearning and reinforcement of existing knowledge. Learning is a daunting task characterised by disciplined focus. It requires hard work, patience and sacrifice. Learning is knowledge acquisition.” He added that knowledge is a treasure, a source of independent thinking, self-reliance and emancipation. “The worst kind of poverty is poverty of knowledge. Without knowledge you are doomed. Ignorant people are forever slaves. Through ignorance people are trapped in the bondage of dependency, victimhood, surviving on leftovers.”

Dr Mathene Mahanke of Language Services, in his presentation entitled “Towards the development of creative writing – the role of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation”, informed the audience that the role of the Department, and specifically Language Services, is to develop literature – to develop writers to write books for literature. Writers should produce more writing than is being created at the moment. Writing in all languages should be encouraged, as all languages are equal. The Free State Writers’ Forum brings writers together, and by joining this Forum, they can boost their own development as writers.

Pontsho Makhetha of Lesedi Radio talked very informatively about writing for radio and TV. She stressed that our children should dwell in books. If you cannot read, you cannot write. Children cannot communicate anymore. Ms Makhetha encouraged everyone to read in their own language. If you do not read books in your own language, you will not know where you come from and where you are going. There are treasures hidden in books.

In his presentation “Elements of a good book: Kroonstad, Place of Thorns: Black political protest since 1976”, Dr Tshepo Moloi discussed his new book. He told the audience that he spent four years doing research and ten years writing it. The book chronicles the political process in Kroonstad since 1920, focusing on Black politics in particular. It will be published shortly.

Mr Tlhapi of Museum and Heritage Services gave a very informative lecture on the topic of heritage, stressing that our heritage is unique and precious, and cannot be replaced. Raspty Ramugondo then outlined the role of Library Services in the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation with regard to our authors. The Free State Provincial Library Service provides access to lifelong learning by providing books, CDs, toys, periodicals, DVDs, etc to the libraries in our communities. These materials are purchased according to the guidelines contained in the Collection Management Policy. The quality of a book is very important. Books need to be bound professionally. Typing is also very important. The font must be easy to read. No spelling and grammatical mistakes are allowed. Authors must also take responsibility for marketing their own books.

Five local (Free State) authors were given an opportunity to share their books and market them to the audience. The authors were Mr M Moloi, Mr N Marapo, Ms M Maruping, Ms M Mokhema and Mr B Gcisa.

The World Book Day event was concluded with a very short presentation by Dr Khechane on “Where to from here?” He left the audience to ponder the thought-provoking question, “What have you done with the information you received? Did you apply it?”

Itumeleng Ramile
Senior Web Journalist, University of Pretoria

Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library celebrates WORLD BOOK DAY - 23 April

Mr Rakesh Maharaj (Circulations Co-ordinator) hosted the DUT Libraries giveaway of 2188 books from the Library discards collection. Students were at liberty to select titles they needed.
Africa Day @ Free State University South Campus

On 5 May 2015, the South Campus library celebrated Africa Day. The intention of the event included motivating the students to read, write and be proud of their identity as Africans. The guest speaker was Mr Ntokozo Mpho Ndlovu, who was born and grew up in KwaZulu Natal, in a town called Impendle. He has written a book titled: *Matsimane and His People*. The essential message of this book is to inspire young black Africans to cultivate a genuine love for Mother Africa, its languages, traditions, culture and the rhythm of life.

It is fundamentally important to appreciate a land that has experienced so much and yet still gives and has a rich history yet to be uncovered by young writers, poets and academics. Without this genuine love, all will fade away in the name of civilisation.

In his speech, Mr Ndlovu mentioned controversial issues to reveal to students that there is a lot of work to be done by African writers to restore peace in the midst of the current issues such as the xenophobic attacks. With this, his purpose was to show how important the role of writers, poets and academics is in uniting the African continent.

Lianda Coetzer
Campus Librarian, University of the Free State: South Campus

Africa Day Celebration @ Monash South Africa University

International Africa Day is celebrated annually on 25 May to mark the formation of the Organisation of African Unity, now known as the African Union (AU), by 32 governments in 1963. Its aim is to celebrate African diversity and success and to highlight the cultural and economic potential that exists on the African continent.

And, to coordinate and intensify the cooperation of African States in order to achieve a better life for the people of Africa. South Africa re-joined the continental and international community in this celebration in 1994 following its first democratic elections. This year, the day also celebrated 21 years since this reintegration. Following government’s declaration of May as Africa Month, AU commission chair Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma said South Africans should not be quick to forget the sacrifices made by other nations for the country’s own liberation.

Traditional dress, good food, cool drinks and artefacts from various African nations were the order of the day at Monash South Africa University, to celebrate Africa Day. Both library staff and students participated in the commemoration of this special day. Included in the programme was the African Union Anthem which was made available electronically through the library’s electronic notice board. Monash South Africa library staff had prepared an eye-catching display with the assistance from the students which capped the day’s event and was considered the highlight of the event. The display showcased African artefacts, national flags, a map of the continent and textiles from different parts of Africa. Pictures were taken to preserve these good memories. We later enjoyed all the dishes that were presented on the day. This intensified unity and brought about appreciation of our African artefacts, creations and culture.

Through library affiliations we have seen socio-economic development, strides in technological development and innovation. We can therefore safely say “this is the century for Africa”. We only need to stop some of the insecurities that are happening on the continent through the provision of educational seminars driven by library practitioners.

Tholakele Xulu, Monash South Africa Library Staff

Africa Month celebrations: City of Johannesburg (CoJLIS)

In celebration of Africa Month CoJLIS rolled out the red carpet for five SA authors by giving them the opportunity to facilitate book talks at various libraries. Written by Africans, for Africans, the books all tackled important issues facing South Africa. From the challenges of diversity in South Africa, to business finance, from being an entrepreneur in Soweto to being a girl growing up in Alexandra to the world of Sandton’s sugar daddies and their side chicks, local authors told Johannesburg residents the real stories behind their books. The authors and their books were: Stanley Bongwe - *100 Lessons in Diversity*; Precious Mvulane - *The Essential Finance Handbook for Business Owners*; Thabang Molefi - *Dollars to Soweto*; Lebo Pule - *Alone*; and Jackie Phamotse - *Shattered Innocence*.

Library staff took some time in explaining their clothing and giving a few facts about their countries of origin. Countries represented included South Africa (Xhosa, Afrikaner and Zulu cultures), Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Uganda and India.
A year ago I attended a course at the University of Cape Town on how to preserve our artefacts using digital technology. What it actually meant was that we can remove the objects in museums or public spaces for safe keeping and use pictures for viewing purposes. The fascinating thing was that we can then use technology such as internet or mobile applications to visit this statues. This will not only safeguard our valuable assets but also save time to visit museums and other places where these objects are stored.

Brilliant idea I thought, this meant we will preserve our artefacts longer and only allow access to those individual who wish to study them to generate more knowledge. I was happy with what I have learnt and proud of the course.

What I did not anticipate was that few months later our country will be engulfed in a serious debate around artefacts or statues and I might be forced to think deep into what I learned to try to understand why we having such a crisis.

During the course there was a discussion about “Mediating Meaning”, what this meant was that it is the responsibility of our curators to continuously manage our statues and amend their meaning accordingly (Metadata Maintenance). If, for example, the statue of Paul Kruger was erected to celebrate white rule or power then curators in the employ of Arts and Culture Department must amend the information on the statue to accommodate the new political climate. The amendment should be marketed vigorously followed by education of why the statue is there in the first place.

The Changing Social Purpose of statues require management to avoid the public to drawing their own conclusions and political opportunists milking our history for free while misleading our masses.

This brings us to question the state of museums and their development thereof, what is their role in society and how do we judge or assess their performance? Who is the National Curator? Who is responsible for managing all artefacts in South Africa?

Somebody out there is supposed to be keeping stock of our national artefacts, manage and market their meaning and continuously assess their risk while engaging relevant communities likely to be affected.

Without someone taking care of our national artefacts it means 5 decades from now we will not be able to tell our stories and it means any private collectors can own this statues as we regard them as junk. Our kids will be paying to see the statue of Cecil John Rhodes.

South African Department of Arts and Culture require curators to provide expertise and host exhibitions of these statues, they require educators to continuously draft education materials around this statues as a way to keep our people informed. The last is a communication strategy around this statues to continuously allow our people to learn and know about our history.

Rhodes must fall must not be just another story, it is a great opportunity to start a debate on moral regeneration and political education rather than keeping mum.

As we celebrate both Africa Month, Youth Month, Womans’ Month and Literacy Day let’s do so, asking ourselves what role should libraries and archives play in educating our people to:

• Appreciate artefacts as sources of information
• Redefine our space as librarians/information workers
• Create places for our communities to engage in debates
• Have activities showcasing other African countries and their people and
• Be vigilant while also promoting activism in the profession allowing others to be lobbyists or form advocacy groups.

Marcus Maphila is a librarian at the University of the Free State and he writes in his personal capacity.
Nal‘ibali launches National ‘Story Bosso’ Storytelling competition

This September, the Nal‘ibali reading-for-enjoyment campaign is launching a nationwide storytelling competition to find South Africa’s first ‘Story Bosso’. Aimed at reawakening a love of storytelling among South Africans of all ages, the competition will connect the public to ideas and inspiration both on how to tell stories and read aloud to others; showcase a range of local stories (in all South African languages) as well as identify undiscovered storytellers in communities across the country.

“Storytelling is one of the greatest tools we have to develop not just our children’s curiosity and imaginations, but also their sense of empathy and belonging.”

Storytelling and reading aloud allow us to build connections with each other by passing on knowledge and providing a shared experience while at the same time being important building blocks of literacy learning,” comments Carole Bloch, Director of PRAESA (the Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa), which is driving the Nal‘ibali campaign.

Research shows that stories spark those parts of the brain concerned with imagination, emotion, sensation and movement; they create the neural circuits that ultimately enable sophisticated thinking and reasoning in young children. We also know that children who read for pleasure perform better in the classroom, not just in vocabulary and spelling, but in Maths and Science too. And stories are a great way to get children interested in books and reading – right from birth.

“As South Africans, we have a deep and respected history of storytelling. Those most fortunate among us will remember being enchanted as young children by the stories told to us by our gogos, parents and other family members. Stories were told to teach us lessons, instill morals and values and often, simply to entertain us. These storytelling moments stay with us throughout our lives and become some of our most cherished memories,” comments Smapengele Mathebula, Nal‘ibali Campaign Driver.

Yet, while we don’t all need to become professional storytellers, being a good storyteller or reader needs work. The ability to captivate and hold your audience while you weave a tale that will appeal to a varied audience and finish with flair takes practice! The Nal‘ibali Story Bosso competition aims to not only seek out talented entertainers, but to highlight and share the tips and techniques that can help make everyone a better storyteller and get our children excited about books and reading.

Launching on 1 September 2015, and running throughout Literacy/Heritage Month, people of all ages - children, parents, caregivers, teachers, librarians - are invited to enter the competition. To do this, they must send in a video or audio clip of themselves reading or telling a favourite story or extract thereof. Entries can be submitted in any South African language in any genre but must be child-friendly and no longer than three minutes.

For those unable to record clips, Nal’ibali will be running a series of pop-up auditions to source stories directly from communities nationwide.

A host of celebrity judges will be on hand to help select the winning entrants, who stand the chance to win up to R10 000 in prizes, as well as special storytelling session with one of the judges… and of course, the chance to be named SA’s first ‘Story Bosso’.

For more information about the Nal’ibali Story Bosso competition, how to enter as well as reading tips and stories in a range of South African languages, visit www.nalibali.org or Facebook and Twitter: nalibaliSA. Nal’ibali is driven by PRAESA, 2015 laureate of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial award for children’s literature and reading promotion.

Sally Mills
PRAESA

Book donations

To All Librarians

On Wednesday 24 June 2015, I accompanied the LIASA President, Segametsi Molawa, to Rotary Humanitarian Club in Bedfordview, where she was invited to come and view the collection of books which were donated by Rotary Club in Texas and some local publishers.

The books are available for all sub-sectors (Schools, Community, Research, Special and Academic libraries) of the Library and Information Service (LIS) sector, to select for the needs of their users and potential users, free of charge. This initiative is mainly focused on getting the less resourced libraries, well resourced.

The Objective of Rotary Club is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society and communities.

For the Libraries to qualify to receive the books, a brief memo on an original letterhead with the full name, address, telephone numbers, signed by the authority with official stamp and name of the person collecting, is required. After collection Institutions/ Libraries should provide photographs and a thank you letter to Rotary and HCDSA reporting on recipients of items to: rotaryhumanitarian@bigpond.com.

Selectors are advised to secure transport and bring boxes to pack books for easy transporting. Comfortable shoes are recommended as the process of selection is quite physical and demanding.

Days to visit the Rotary Club are Tuesday to Thursday 09:30 – 15:00 and Friday 09:30 to 13:30. HCDSA is also open on the first Saturday of the month from 09:30 – 12:00 and they are closed mid-December to mid-January.

The Rotary Club further supply needy communities (Old Age Homes, Crèches, Hospices, etc.) with good quality, used linen and towels that are donated by Sun International Hotels, Bidvest hotels etc. on an ongoing basis. The procedure to receive the linen packages is also a brief memo on a stamped Company /Institutional letter head.

The Rotary Humanitarian Centre & Book Project (HCDSA) is located on Van Vuuren Street and can be reached via Nicol Road, Skeer Boulevard, immediately into Van Vuuren Street passing the Nicol Hotel on the left, Municipal Clinic Bedfordview on the right and through the gate to park near the warehouse buildings.

Let the information we have add value to our lives and others- “A better life for all”.

Enquiries: rotaryhumanitarian@bigpond.com

Mmaditshipi Seageng
LIASA Gauteng North Branch Chair-Elect

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LIASA KZN in partnership with Msunduzi Municipal Library Services hosted a seminar on 12 June at Msunduzi Municipal Library Services. The theme of the seminar was Libraries for development, action, integration and collaboration.

Several speakers made presentations related to the theme of the day. The speakers included:
- Professor D. Ocholla and Mrs L. Ocholla (University of Zululand) on “Scholarly communication and role of the university library”;
- Ms Khanyi Dubazane (Department of Education) on “Promoting equitable access to school libraries as centres of academic excellence”;
- Ms Nora Buchanan (SANLIC) on “Electronic resources: Issues and challenges”;  
- Ms Golly Odendaal (KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Library Services) on “Web 2.0 and its impact on library culture”;  
- Mr Musa Radebe (eThekwini Municipal Libraries) on “Re-inventing library spaces and services”;  
- Ms Lindiwe Magazi (KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Library Services) on “The importance of provincialization of public libraries”;  
- Dr T. Sifunda (KZN Department of Arts and Culture) on “The need to develop arts, culture and heritage strategy” and  
- Ms Elrica Henning (KZN Museum Services) on “Museums adding value in social development”.

The presentations were followed by question and answer sessions. The presentations provided valuable information and opportunities for collaborations between different LIS stakeholders in the KZN region.

Mzo Ndlela, LIASA KZN PRO

LIASA KZN HELIG

The workshop was attended by 52 people from different High Education institutions and special/reference libraries as follows:
- UKZN = 19  
- DUT = 13  
- UniZulu = 6  
- MUT = 6  
- Engen = 3  
- Varsity College = 2  
- Cedara College = 2  
- Unemployed = 1  

The delegates indicated in the evaluation forms that they would like future HELIG workshops to cover the following topics:
- Digital libraries  
- Open Learning systems  
- Mobile technology  
- User Education

Nonhlanhla Ngcobo  
KZN LIASA Chair-elect and Manager: Library Information Services at UKZN
This year District 4 and defending champions, District 6 won and will be competing in the final round at the Service Awards ceremony in September.

This year’s Amaboekies Reading Team of the Year booklist included the following titles:

**ENGLISH TITLES—SEMI FINALS**
1. **Cry Wolf** – Patricia Briggs
2. **Coldsleep lullaby** – Andrew Brown
3. **Tell the wolves I’m home** – Carol Rifka Brunt
4. **Suspect** – Robert Crais
5. **Gone in seconds** – AJ Cross
6. **The Cuckoo’s Calling** – Robert Galbraith
7. **The fault in our stars** – John Green
8. **I am Pilgrim** – Terry Hayes
9. **Doctor sleep** – Stephen King
10. **Red Notice** – Andy McNab
11. **Unwanted** – Kristina Ohlsson
12. **Beneath my mother’s feet** – Amjed Qamar
13. **The casual vacancy** – J K Rowling
14. **The goldfinch** – Donna Tartt
15. **A tale for the time being** – Ruth Ozeki

**AFRIKAANS TITLES—SEMI FINALS**
1. **Dubbelspel** – Wilna Adriaanse
2. **Pad na jou hart** – Francois Bloemhof
3. **Die Lanternswaaier** – S D Fourie
4. **Kobra** – Deon Meyer
5. **Pastoor** – Pat Stamatelos

**XHOSA TITLES—SEMI FINALS**
1. **Inkawu idliw’ilila** – Siphatheleni Kula
2. **Ukuvuka kwam ekufeni** – Thembelani Ngenelwa
3. **Kuphek’amadoda kupheth’abafazu We-ena!** – L. L. Ngewu
4. **Indlela esinga empumelelweni** – N C Phakane
5. **Mhla uGogo waya kuvota** – Elinor Batezat Sisulu

**TITLES—FINALS**
1. **The garden of burning sand** – Corban Addison
2. **The Shining Girls** – Lauren Beukes
3. **We need new names** – NoViolet Bulawayo
4. **The Blacks of Cape Town** – C A Davids
5. **Way back home** – Niq Mhlongo

Note:
- Libraries in District 4 are: Athlone, Belhar, Bishop Lavis, Bonteheuwel, Bridgetown, Crossroads, Delft, Delft South, Guguletu, Hanover Park, Heideveld, Manenberg, Nyanga, Rylands, Valhalla Park.

**Ridhwaana Baradien**
Assistant Professional Officer: Marketing & Research
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In celebration of Youth Day, the Department of Library Services invited former University of Pretoria (UP) student Benjamin Mbana, to present a talk at the Merensky 2 Library on 11 June. Mr Mbana graduated with a BComHons (Taxation) in 2012 and was named winner of the South African Ernst & Young (EY) Young Tax Professional of the Year (YTPY) 2014 award. He then won the International Young Tax Professional of the Year (YTPY) 2014 award. He then won the International EY YTPY 2014 award in Amsterdam in December 2014.

The organiser for this event, Ms Elsabe Olivier, Assistant Director for Marketing and Quality Assurance in the Department of Library Services, said that Youth Day was a reminder of the importance of youth and the role they played in the liberation of South Africa on that fateful day, 16 June 1976. Her motivation for putting this talk together was to inspire and motivate UP students through the story of one of their own who, despite experiencing setbacks in his life, had achieved success.

Mr Mbana captivated the audience with his talk as he described his humble beginnings growing up in a township in Krugersdorp, where he attained provincial colours as a goalkeeper in hockey at the U/16 age level, earning him a scholarship to the prestigious Hilton College in KwaZulu-Natal. While on the rise, he was diagnosed with a blood vessel complication in his brain that resulted in doctors forbidding him to play hockey. Despite this setback, he persevered and, when he recovered, the doctors allowed him to resume playing hockey. Such was his fortitude that he was chosen in the senior men’s training squad for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Although he did not make the final 16 to go to China, he did make the 2005 Junior World Cup. He said: “Success was a journey and not a destination. You are a culmination of your decisions. You can’t blame someone else for your circumstances.”

The feedback forms from the youth in attendance were testament to his positive message. Comments included: ‘I am feeling so inspired and motivated to pursue my dreams after hearing his speech’ and ‘it was very insightful and helpful; it actually motivated me to work harder.’

In conclusion Mr Mbana said that you need to be passionate about what you are doing, as this is a common trait in those who are regarded as successful.

The Director of Library Services, Mr Robert Moropa, echoed similar sentiments and said that Mbana was a remarkable young man who had not wasted his time and energy blaming his parents, teachers, the government, or his background or circumstances. ‘The youth can learn from him to set goals and pursue them with passion, discipline and dedication. South Africa needs young role models like Mr Mbana, who work hard and deliver good results.’

Mr Moropa also expressed his thanks to Ms Olivier and her team for arranging this event. Ms Olivier summed it up well, saying, ‘Listening to Benjamin Mbana, I see a bright and positive future for the youth of South Africa.’

Myan Subrayan
Senior Web Journalist, University of Pretoria

Youth Day commemorated @ University of Pretoria library

Lifestyle Executive Aqeelah gave a presentation on personal development for learners of Beauvallon Senior Secondary School.

Valhalla Park Library: Hosted a career day presented by Kingsway College. The presentation and exhibition focused on what the college offers youth in the community.

Ridhaana Baradien

In celebration of Youth Month, CoJLIS invited two hundred learners from disadvantaged areas to participate in four dialogues facilitated by author Stanley Bongwe. Bongwe used selections from his book 100 Lessons in Diversity to provide the participants with valuable lessons that will guide them in their future.

In his book Bongwe gives readers an incredible insight into human nature and human behaviour through an examination of people’s core beliefs about people, beliefs that lead to attitudes and behaviours that in turn affect the relationships between individuals and groups. Employing and weaving artful storytelling and applied behavioural science to real-life experiences of diverse individuals and organizations, Bongwe has captured the essence of human diversity in a practical, powerful, and gentle manner. Each participant received a copy of the book.
Edgemoor Library turned 21 on Tuesday 16 June 2015. The library still boasts three of the original staff members. The library has an interesting history. It opened with only 13 000 items and today has more than 48 000 available to patrons.

In the late 1980’s the residents of Edgemoor started putting pressure on the council of the Goodwood municipality for a library which they could especially call their own. A mobile service or a branch library in the N1 City complex was considered but in the end the Goodwood town council agreed to build a library in Edgemoor Drive. It opened as a branch of Goodwood Library on 16 June 1994.

Goodwood city fathers decided that as the community hall, adjacent to the library was called the Monte Vista/Edgemoor Community Hall, the library should be called the Edgemoor/Monte Vista library. The Friends of the Edgemoor/Monte Vista library, established in August 1999, is one of the most active groups with more than 500 members.

Their regular Monday morning book mending group is still going strong after more than 15 years, they have two art exhibitions and two craft markets per year, car boot sales occur bi-monthly, and they have organised raffles and weekly tea mornings since January of this year.

The Friends gave funding to move some of the windows outwards to create the Smartcape area and an extra office. This library was one of the first to have internet access. It was a blue kiosk and customers had to insert R5 to gain internet access for half an hour.

Librarian in charge, Lorraine Mathewson, says librarians at Edgemoor/Monte Vista go the extra mile.

‘Although the library has no hall we organise four very successful women’s empowerment tea mornings each year. These are hosted by the staff and exclude a bigger Woman’s Day event, said Ms Mathewson.

‘Our holiday programmes are sometimes so in demand that we need to limit numbers. The quarterly reading programmes for young people have seen a culture of reading being established amongst our teenage population over the last few years,’ she said.

Another of the library’s success stories is the two book clubs for adults which have been meeting monthly for the last three years.

The library has 10 volunteers who assist regularly. One of them is an octogenarian who comes in on a Saturday morning to shelf books and spoils the staff with home bakes.

Ridhwaana Baradien
Assistant Professional Officer: Marketing & Research

City libraries Reading Competition Library Rounds conclude

The annual reading competition’s library rounds have slowly drawn to a close. The winners from the library rounds will advance to the district rounds, then on to the finals.

It’s the seventh annual reading competition which this year includes 68 libraries and thousands of learners. The district rounds are set to end in August with the final scheduled for September at the Athlone Civic Centre.

Participating schools hold elimination rounds where all of the Grade Seven learners compete to qualify for the district reading competitions. Last year more than 1 000 learners from 275 schools participated.

Only 18 learners will make it to the finals. They are competing in each of the three official languages in the Western Cape.

Sharon Adams, Snr Librarian, Retreat Library; Chelsea Van Der Broeck, Square Hill Primary, 1st prize – English; Tanweer Julie, of Harmony Primary, 1st prize – Afrikaans, and Councillor Kevin Southgate (Ward 72)

‘The competition addresses the reading challenges of our communities and helps to build relationships between local libraries and schools. We are committed to developing reading skills and encouraging a reading culture amongst our children,’ said the City’s Mayoral Committee Member for Community Services and Special Projects, Alderman Belinda Walker.

Alderman Walker said reading helped to develop the mind and imagination.

‘Reading helps children to improve language and listening skills. It improves fluency which helps learners become confident speakers who are able to express themselves coherently. It also strengthens their ability to comprehend information and concepts. Improved reading abilities can lead to marked improvements in a child’s performance in other subjects as they’re able to read and understand instructions,’ said Alderman Walker.

Ridhwaana Baradien
Assistant Professional Officer: Marketing & Research

A very successful workshop was held on 2 July 2015, hosted at the National Library of South Africa.

After registration we received a warm welcome from Dr Eddy Maepa, Executive Director (Core Programmes) NLSA. Mrs Roselle Jansen van Vuuren (Chairperson ILLIG) shared the Draft Southern African Code of Best Practice where she gave a very good and insightful explanation of the draft. The Code is to be used in Interlending departments. The aim is to improve efficiency by providing standard procedures for Interlibrary loans and Document Supply.

Mr Freeman Zulu (UNISA) gave an introduction on the Challenges and Tricks of the Trade, which all of us in the Interlending world can relate to and benefit from. Groups were formed and the delegates had the opportunity to share some of their challenges that they deal with everyday in Interlending, as well as sharing the tricks of the trade that works for them. One of the issues that was raised frequently was housekeeping, e.g. checking for messages on request daily, making sure our library stock is in order etc. This will make the job easier for everyone.

We were very delighted to have a surprise visit from the LIASA Exco members during the Workshop.

Ms Annamarie Goosen (LIASA Manager) did a presentation on LIASA as a Professional Body. She also gave a very thorough explanation of what LIASA is, what it stands for and what the benefits are when you become a member.

The workshop ended on a high note when paid up members of LIASA each received a “LIASA proudly ILIG” mug presented to them by the LIASA President, Ms Segametsi Molawa.

Corinne Ryan
Librarian, Interlending, NLSA

News from LIASA ILLIG (Interlending Interest Group)

ILLIG 2014-2016 Committee

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City of Cape Town

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Lorraine Mathewson cutting the birthday cake

Principal Librarian, Lorraine Mathewson
Varsity College Library

Introduction

Varsity College (VC), an educational brand of The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE) (Pty) Ltd, is registered as a Private Higher Education Institute with the Department of Education and is part of AdvTech Ltd.

VC Pietermaritzburg (PMB) is nestled in Scottsville. The double storey, modern campus is tranquil with beautiful gardens. The 2015 registration serves 761 students offering, part-time and full-time degrees, diplomas, certificates and short-learning programmes.

The role of the library as part of the Administrative process

The Library’s structured orientation programme familiarizes students with fragmented information. The programme includes: “O” (Orientation) Week, the Development Assignment process and Librarian driven programmes. During “O” Week the campus is abuzz with first year students. Students are orientated to campus life and the library services, procedures and rules, and offered a membership to the Book club. This library visit concludes the registration cycle by capturing biometric information and issuing student cards.

Literacy modules are timetabled workshops directly linked to the Development Assignment. The Development Assignment is designed to evaluate the students’ literacies and use the library to research their chosen qualifications. Students are taken through an introduction to assignment formatting and submission process, referencing techniques, and an introduction to library e-resources. Based on the gaps identified by the students, lecturers and markers during the compilation and marking of these assignments, feedback sessions are further timetabled and the librarian gives a detailed information literacy training.

Librarian driven programmes are internally advertised on the PMB campus. These programmes, may take the form of one-on-one or group sessions. Often the one-on-one sessions are further splintered according to the individual need and pace of the student.

The role of the library as part of the Student Support Team

Academic Development Coordinator (ADC)

Students find the transition from Secondary to Tertiary education challenging. The ADC and library staff work closely together to make this transition as seamless as possible. Particular areas of integrated support include the Development Assignment process, the use of Turnitin, e-referencing, plagiarism and computer literacy. Students are assisted in developing these skills and theoretical literacies, in the form of individual or group sessions.

Student Relations Manager (SRM)

During individual or group sessions with the students, the existence of medical conditions, psychological or social issues which could lead to learning difficulties may be identified by the librarian. These students are referred to the SRM and are offered four primary counselling sessions. In addition to this, the SRM and library have monthly themes that serves at providing holistic developmental education. The library reinforces monthly themes in the form of displays and academic related activities. Social awareness campaigns and community engagement play a vital role in VC PMB social responsibility. The library supports these campaigns by assisting with fundraising initiatives to start new school libraries, donating obsolete books and creating awareness about libraries and reading.

Academic Programme Champion (APC) and Programme Support Tutor (PST)

The APC and PST provide academic support to The Business School (TBS) students. TBS offers part time Short Learning Programmes, a BCom Degree and Higher Certificate. Most students studying through TBS are mature students who are already working and are now “up-skilling”. They are re-visiting formal education after many years and therefore have different challenges from full-time school leavers or young adults, such as feeling intimidated or embarrassed to ask for help. Thus the APC or PST liaise with the students and lecturers to identify areas of concern such as academic writing and basic computer skills and then arranges with the librarian to provide support sessions with the students on an individual basis. The library supports the APC and PST in the various literacies, including crucial computer and academic literacies.

In conclusion, the library serves as a specialist educational unit, having characteristics of a Knowledge Commons, Information Technology learning space, Public and Academic library knowledge area progressing to a space for appreciating and applying research. A student is not a number, but an individual who is assisted holistically. What sets us apart from other tertiary education providers? The level of support that is provided to the student and the enabling environment of a learning hub with personal customer orientated support mechanism.

Suvasni Casoojee
Librarian, Varsity College Pietermaritzburg

Storytelling workshop

PACLIG recently held a Storytelling Workshop for the Paarl and Drakenstein Municipalities. This is the second time they requested such a workshop. Altogether thirty participants attended. It was disheartening to note only twelve were LIASA members. I facilitated the workshop and spent a few minutes emphasizing the importance of being a member of a professional body and the benefits of joining LIASA. The workshop covered choice of stories, expressions, voice usage, dress and props.

Various openings and closings were introduced and different techniques and stories were demonstrated. From their reaction I could tell that they enjoyed the fun aspect of the workshop. Many felt equipped and inspired to try out their unique storytelling styles in their own libraries. Each participant went back with a training manual. We have since received more requests for advanced Storytelling Workshops in the Overberg area. We appeal to retired library professionals who have a passion for storytelling to come on board our training team.

Glorine Hannah, PACLIG Chair, Western Cape.

Glorine entertaining participants with a humorous story.

September 2015 • Vol 16 • Issue 3
During the June/July 2015 school holiday period the City of Johannesburg again facilitated activities which kept children busy, entertained and learning at the same time. Some of the programmes included extra special activities facilitated by professional entertainers such as puppeteers, magicians and storytellers using musical instruments. In the 2014/15 financial year CoJLIS has attracted fourteen thousand children between the ages 3-18 years to activities held in our libraries.

Mr Sefotlhelo and Ms Lianda Coetzer

Mr Manichand Beharilal

LIASA Free State: May Seminar

“Reading and Literacy Campaign: empowering libraries for community development”

The Free State Branch concentrated on the one aspect of our social responsibility, i.e. reading and literacy development. We had two invited speakers to share their ideas with branch members:

Mr Tshepo Sefotlhelo from ReaderLympics

He and his wife, Tina, started the non-profit company because their son’s school indicated to them that he had problems with reading. They want to promote reading and teach the benefits thereof; engage communities, parents and children; encourage collaboration to reading; host a series of events/books reviews that combine reading, activities, competitions and games.

The pillars of the company are: events, charities, schools, libraries. With this they want to increase the literacy levels of the learners and the communities they reside in, create a culture of reading amongst learners and communities in a fun and engaging manner, and secure funding for their projects.

At the events they have reading circles, a literacy competition (Word Bingo, reading fluency, discussion and time for questions and answers), Lego build, children presenting the models, unpacking and discussing the themes related to the books, motivational speaking and acting and prize giving. Parents and/or teachers are used as facilitators.

They are partnering with libraries to bring ReaderLympics to communities by utilizing the library spaces. Communities don’t see the relevance of libraries and neither do learners beyond their schools. By creating an advocacy campaign they want to bring families and communities together through reading, for example with awareness about xenophobia.

So far they’ve learnt they need to change communities’ mind-sets and behaviours. The seriousness about science and maths must also be extended to seriousness about reading. We need to entice our communities to read, so we can teach them the benefits. Reading is a basic right!

Mr Manichand Beharilal from MBLS Publishing

As author and publisher Mr Beharilal is assisting in teaching and developing children for their future. He shared with the members the development and publishing of some of his children’s books, e.g. the well-known “Thembi and Themba” series.

The series is designed, inter alia, to promote reading at the libraries and empower librarians with information so that it assists them in advancing a culture of reading to bring a better and brighter future to the children of South Africa.

Other titles he wrote address issues such as conservation and nature (The yellow-eyed bird’s nest and The mystery of the red robin). Another book published by them “Leo the soccer escort” had the 2010 FIFA World Cup as a theme and young readers can learn about big sporting events.

He is also planning a new series “Ayanda learns . . .” that will address issues like xenophobia, etc. We need stories about our history and culture to assist children in their development.

Libraries need to find a way forward as societal contributors. One way this can be done is by providing suitable reading material to children and encouraging them to become readers.

The members had the opportunity to ask questions and discussed their viewpoints. During lunch further informal discussions took place.

Erna Mostert, Secretary, FS Branch

Emmarentia Library

M van Niewkerk, Linden Library

City of Johannesburg Libraries June/July 2015 holiday activities

During the June/July 2015 school holiday period the City of Johannesburg again facilitated activities which kept children busy, entertained and learning at the same time. Some of the programmes included extra special activities facilitated by professional entertainers such as puppeteers, magicians and storytellers using musical instruments. In the 2014/15 financial year CoJLIS has attracted fourteen thousand children between the ages 3-18 years to activities held in our libraries.
New course offering @ Library and Information Studies Centre, University of Cape Town

The Library and Information Studies Centre (LISC), University of Cape Town, is offering a brand new course in 2016 – Teaching and Learning for LIS Professionals. This course is an elective for the Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) but will also be offered as an occasional course. Occasional courses are a wonderful opportunity for accumulating credits that can add on to one’s master’s degree or for individuals who have a master’s degree and need to update their skills in critical areas for continuing professional development.

LISC as a school of choice in Africa is constantly on the lookout for the LIS profession in South Africa and the rest of the African continent to acquire critical skills. LISC has realised that the LIS profession is in transition as a result of changing communication dynamics and technological advancements; it assumes new roles and responsibilities. Some of these are directly related to the domain of teaching and learning, requiring LIS professionals to understand educational theory and practice for users from diverse backgrounds and in different sites of practice. Although LIS professionals have engaged in offering bibliographic instruction and information literacy, it was often without formal education in teaching and learning. However, global trends show that the digital landscape poses new challenges to the profession that require critical thinking and appropriate skills from the end user. Therefore, formal education of LIS professionals in teaching and learning that addresses this knowledge and skills gap has become essential. Mastering curriculum design and delivery, pedagogical skills, instructional design and assessment is now critical for the LIS profession.

All Masters’ courses at LISC are offered by blended delivery that is mostly online with two contact sessions in a semester, which is a great opportunity for out-of-Cape Town students. Similarly, the new 48 credits course, at NQF level 9 will be offered by blended delivery in the second semester. The admission requirement is an Honours degree or equivalent at NQF level 8 in the field of LIS.

For more information please contact lisc@uct.ac.za or Tel: 021 650 4546, Apply early to avoid disappointment at: http://applyonline.uct.ac.za or http://www.uct.ac.za/apply/applications/forms

Connie Bitso
Library and Information Studies Centre, UCT

UCT Libraries – Research Week

UCT Libraries hosted its second annual Research Week from 13 to 17 April 2015. The Week was held in the newly established Library Learning Lounge, a book-free space in which students may use their own devices with librarian assistance at hand, developed as an extension of UCT Libraries.

The programme included: author workshops facilitated by the publishing groups Emerald and Thomson Reuters; a presentation on the ways in which the eResearch Centre could assist researchers on their journey; an informative discussion on ethics and copyright; and a session on research support services offered by the library.

New to the programme, was a session dedicated to promoting undergraduate research. The promotion of undergraduate research is in support of the University’s research intensive agenda. The underlying principle is that research begins at the undergraduate level and its growth is critical to increasing the pool of possible postgraduate students. It is against this backdrop that it was deemed important to create a forum for undergraduate students to publish their research. In response to the need to encourage undergraduate students to publish their research output, UCT Libraries, on behalf of the University, utilized open source software to launch the journal UR@UCT, Undergraduate Research. This online journal will showcase completed undergraduate research sourced from departments across the university.

Research Week was concluded with our first Research Engagement Evening with special guest speaker Professor Tim Noakes. The intention of the Research Engagement Evenings is to nurture and grow a culture of research among young researchers. One of the ways of doing this is to get an ‘elder researcher’ to share ‘research wisdom’ with a new generation of researchers. Added bonus to UCT Libraries was the donation his personal archives to the Special Collections office.

Professor Noakes’ controversial shift, to the research community, from one hypothesis to a directly contrasting one served as a significant starting point to demonstrate that research is dynamic. He engaged with the audience regarding the constant battle between old and new research, urging upcoming researchers to rethink conventional approaches in order to attain real progress.

Professor Noakes’ relaxed and enlightening talk proved to be a most fitting end to a week dedicated to the needs of both established and upcoming researchers.

UCT Libraries hopes to make this a regular event, at which emerging researchers are able to gain insight from established scholars and to engage in debate and discussion regarding research related topics.

The annual Research Week event was held in collaboration with various partners attached to the university, including the Research Office, the eResearch Centre, the Student Representative Council and the Office for Postgraduate Studies. These partnerships strengthened the Libraries’ associations with the various units and will hopefully lead to further collaborative efforts in the future.

The organising committee received positive feedback from participants who were either not previously aware of resources that the University had to offer researchers, or who were grateful to gain the opportunity to discuss issues relating to research. The success of the event is, in part, attributed to a number of UCT librarians who participated in the programme and attended a majority of the sessions.

Caitlin Miller
LiSLIG Free State survey

The BEC of the LiSLIG Free State Branch decided at their meeting on 7 October 2014 to determine the needs and expectations of current and prospective LiSLIG members through a questionnaire. Planning for the questionnaire was done at their meeting on 11 February 2015. On 24 March 2015 the questionnaire was sent to 43 persons on the FS LiSLIG distribution list and 11 responses were received by 30 April 2015. This is a 26% response rate. However, on looking closer, the BEC realized that the 11 responses were all LiSLIG (LIASA) members. With a current total of 21 LiSLIG members, it gives a response rate of 52%.

The main reasons why they chose LiSLIG as an interest group are to receive information about issues relating to work in special libraries and for continuing professional development (CPD). Close to these are networking with and to get practical tips from other special librarians.

Our meetings are currently scheduled for Wednesdays and most members indicated they prefer this arrangement. However, Tuesdays and Thursdays are also possibilities. The most preferable amount of time to spend at a LiSLIG event is 120 minutes.

The best time of the day for attending events seems to be 10:00 (which is the usual time for our meetings). There are a few respondents that indicated after 13:00 could also be acceptable – due to specific work conditions.

Most respondents indicated some kind of problem in attending events, e.g. working alone in the library; travel distance (which included the length of time out of the library where work takes preference); trip authorization and work load. It is interesting to note that those who indicated that there were no problems were members who do not work alone in a library or are not working in a special library.

Most (82%) responded that the topics presented so far are applicable, but to increase the value of their membership and attendance they would also like to know more about: Cataloguing & Classification; Knowledge Management in special libraries; Technology use in special libraries; Management and administrative tips, tools and templates; Exchange ideas (brainstorming) re SALW in special libraries; Trends and new developments library science; Practical workshops and Training events.

On the question “Should LiSLIG Free State continue as a separate interest group of LIASA Free State?” there was an overwhelming “Yes”, but there was also “Unsure”, mainly because CPD and networking can be accommodated by LIASA Free State Branch and by lessening the number of different events with different Interest Groups it may lead to better attendance of Branch events.

When scrutinising each answer to each question, the BEC came to the conclusion that the members are satisfied with what they get from LiSLIG Free State. From the answers, like “Satisfied” and “Doing good”, it seems that we are on track in providing to the needs of the members.

The BEC will keep in mind some of the suggestions (like days of the week for meetings, time of meetings and practical content of meetings) when they plan the 2016 activities later this year.

Erna Mostert
(on behalf of the LiSLIG FS Committee)

Mphebatho Community Library celebrates World Play Day

Young preschoolers and day care learners from Kgantsho Day Care, Easy Learners Day Care and Tlhaloganyo Primary School were invited to Mphebatho Community Library to participate in play activities on 28 May. The purpose of the event was to increase the utilization of the children’s section. The event had 150 participants and the activities of the day were conducted by Moretele Service Point Recreational Service and the Mphebatho Community library staff.

Rinhanzu Chuma
(Head Librarian Moretele Local Municipality)
Sandle Khanyezi
Librarian Mphebatho Community library

Madibeng Municipal libraries celebrate Librarians’ Day

Library staff members from Madibeng Local Municipality libraries celebrated Librarians’ Day on 10 July. The event started with brief background information on how this day came to be. Ms Zandle Nyathi, LIASA NW Chair, delivered a presentation to the attendees on LIASA as a registered Professional Body. This was an opportune time to talk to management on matters relating to library service delivery in the municipality.

The occasion was graced by the presence of a library user, Mr Ndou Rabelani from Ouakasie Library who wanted to talk about how the library has changed his life for the better. He is currently studying International Relations at Wits University and it is his second year. He started using the library when he was 5 years old. He encouraged other library workers to work well with community members so that they can use the library to develop their lives. The attendees were treated to lunch provided by the Community Services Department of Madibeng Local Municipality.

Pieter Louw, PRO, LIASA NW

AWARDS/HONOURS

CTI Potchefstroom Campus Group: Campus Librarian, Okoli “Ugo” Ugochukwu, was presented with the Pearson Global Award at the 2014 Pearson Community Awards. The Award is given to Pearson employees making an extraordinary contribution to their communities. Ugo has volunteered at the Thakaneng Project since 2012, offering computer literacy classes over weekends. The project is a shelter for 60 boys between the ages of 7 and 18 who live on the street. Ugo teaches the boys computer skills and digital literacy classes. He has donated the prize money of £5000 to the project. He is also working on setting up a mini library for them.

IN MEMORIAM

Witwatersrand University (Wits): Librarian, Felix Ubogu, passed away after a prolonged illness. He will be sorely missed by all his colleagues. Mr Ubogu joined Wits in 2000 from Rhodes University, where he served as its chief librarian. He spearheaded the digitisation of university libraries and initiated the move towards digitising theses, with the aim of spreading African scholarship across the globe. He was named the recipient of the Electronic Theses and Dissertation (ETD) Leadership Award in 2011.

Mr Ubogu advocated the benefits of ETD which led to the formation of the National Electronic Theses and Dissertations project. He chaired the Advisory Committee of the Database of African Theses and Dissertations Pilot Project from July 2000 to February 2005. From 2003 to 2004 he served as the Project Manager of a UNESCO pilot project to improve the management of and access to theses and dissertations.

Mr Ubogu was also the Chair of the Nigerian Library Association, Oyo State Chapter, before relocating to South Africa.

University of Pretoria’s (UP) Francina Laka from Technical Services’ Interlending Unit has passed away in April 2015. Ms Laka joined the Department of Library Services in 2004 when the Mamelodi campus of the then Vista University became part of the University of Pretoria. She joined the Vista University in 1995.
National Library of South Africa (NLSA)
Dr Eddy Maepa has been appointed Executive Director: Core Programmes. He started his career at the then University of the North (now Limpopo) as a Cataloguer. He was subsequently appointed as a Lecturer in the teaching department and also served as Senior Lecturer and acting Head of Department. He later on moved to Unisa as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Information Science. He has also worked at the National Research Foundation as Manager for Knowledge Management and Strategy. After this he returned to Unisa where he served in different capacities as Deputy Director for Registrations and Student Funding. Before his move to the NLSA on 01 June 2015, he was Director for Library Corporate Services at Unisa, with oversight on Library Technology Services, HR, Finances, Infrastructure, Research, Planning and Quality Assurance. His research interests are in emerging LIS technologies, the proliferation of e-books and rural information services.

University of Pretoria’s (UP) Department of Library Services
Samuel Mudau (previously from the Vaal University of Technology) has been appointed as an information specialist in the Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Engineering, Built Environment and IT Faculty Library. Bulelwia Mandubu (previously from the University of the Western Cape) joined the UP’s Department of Library Services in June 2015 as an information specialist in the Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Engineering, Built Environment and IT Faculty Library.

Tlou Matshiba (previously a contract staff member at UP) has been appointed as the UPSpace Administrator in the Open Scholarship Office of the Department of Library Services. Sonto Mabena (previously an information specialist) was transferred to the UP’s Special Collections at the Department of Library Service, while Gloria Maripane from the Open Scholarship Office has transferred to the UP’s Mamelodi Library.

University of Cape Town Libraries: Jeremiah Pietersen has been appointed to the Science and Engineering Liaison Librarian Team. University of the Western Cape Library: Alfred Nqotolo (HELIG Committee Additional Member) has been appointed Assistant Director: Research Support and Innovation.

Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library: Mayezana Madida joined as a Library Assistant at the Riverside Campus Library, Pietermaritzburg. She completed her Bachelor of Social Science degree in Politics, Public Policy and Administration at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and then went on to do her Post Graduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in 2011. She has worked in libraries for over five years. Her exposure to libraries include the UCT Centre for African Literary Studies, Epworth High School and the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is currently studying towards a Masters in Information Studies.

City of Cape Town: Karen Nefdt is Senior Librarian at Muizenberg Library. She was previously at Claremont Library.

Trevo Sikhosana has been appointed Senior Librarian at Scottsdene Library, moving over from Bellville Library.

Lawrence Mkentane, previously Librarian at Browns Farm, has been appointed Senior Librarian at Philippi East Library.

Thembisa Mlamla is the Senior Librarian at Weltevreden Library

Martha Andreas-Mpela is the Senior Librarian at Belhar Library.

Wilhelmina Whitman has been appointed Senior Librarian at Kuilsriver Library moving over from Adriaanse Library.

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development: Prince Bheki Dlumuka has been appointed as a Principal Librarian. Previously he worked for Madibeng Local Municipality as a librarian, Greater Kokstad Municipality as an assistant librarian, raisetorhe High School as a librarian, and Ethekhweni Municipality as a library assistant.

Department of Arts and Culture: Joey van Zyl retired on 1 April 2015 after 24 years of service. She has decided to move on to a new life with her family and to start new projects while she is still healthy and energetic.

Joey began her professional career at the North West University Library in Potchefstroom in 1973 where her mentors introduced her to the profession, the fundamentals of work ethics, personal skills development, and important values that shaped her future conduct as librarian.

Her four children were born in Potchefstroom and during this period the profession had to be moved to the backburner while she raised the children. The family moved to Pretoria in 1990 and in 1991 she continued her career at the then State Library where she worked as a catalogue in the SANB section from 1991 to 1998. In 1998 she was appointed as Principal Librarian in the Sub-directorate Meta-Information in the then Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology (DACST) where she became acquainted with the aim of the Legal Deposit Act and the Legal Deposit Committee. When the DACST split in 2002 the Sub-directorate remained part of the Arts and Culture sector.

The National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS) was constituted in 2004 and since then the development of national policy and coordination for the LIS sector increasingly picked up momentum. Joey participated in exciting national developments in the LIS sector, inter alia, all the national projects introduced to transform and restructure the public LIS sector in the country.

The introduction of the community library conditional grant programme in 2007 and the preceding investigations into the status quo of the public library sector, the legislative environment in which the sector operates, and the funding of the sector was the beginning of a new era which set the scene for projects that are still running to date. Joey was involved when the motivation for the drafting of the Library and Information Services Transformation Charter was formulated, she participated in the national consultations during the drafting of the South African Public Library and Information Services Bill, she was the liaison officer during the investigation to cost the implementation of the Bill, the investigation into training provided to librarians, and experienced the difference that technology has brought to the lives of communities since the installation of computers and the internet in libraries.

She wishes to greet colleagues, friends and stakeholders in the LIS sector farewell and thank everyone for the exciting journey. “There comes a time when you have to choose between turning the page and closing the book” – Josh Jameson.

Winnie Mangotlo

University of Pretoria: Katrien Malan, senior information specialist at Special Collections retired at the end of June 2015 after 20 years of service at the Department of Library Services.

Submissions to Ingrid Thomson: ingrid.thomson@uct.ac.za

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