South African Library Week 2014

LIASA President, Ujala Satgoor, hands over a SALW poster to Western Cape DCAS Director for Library Services, Nomaza Dingayo
The logistics of getting the current and future leaders of LIASA together for the second LIASA Leadership Strategic Review Weekend, again proved to be challenging for the LIASA National Office (LNO) but it was met when most of the BEC and Interest Group Chairs and Chairs-Elect, as well as the Executive Committee members attended this highly successful, interactive and inspiring weekend held at the Protea Hotel Capital in Pretoria from 24-27 April 2014. Our appreciation to Annamarie Goosen who streamlined the arrangements when having to single-handedly attend to all the other LNO and LIASA membership issues as well. Kabelo Makgabo, as interim Membership Officer, ended his term at the end of March and Annamarie also had to take care of all his membership and administrative tasks.

During April interviews were conducted to appoint two staff members complying with requirements of the newly structured LNO. Kagiso Ledwaba, Membership Officer, started on 29 April and Priscilla Chuene, Administrative Officer, will commence her duties on 17 June 2014. A screening panel meeting, as agreed to by the Representative Council, finalised the appointment of Annamarie Goosen as the LIASA Manager. The panel consisted of the LIASA President - Ujala Salgoor; President Elect - Segametsi Molawa; PR - Mandla Ntombela; Secretary – Therese Eis; a representative of the Department of Arts and Culture – Puleng Bekana and a member of the Representative Council – Danie Malan (Gauteng North Branch Chair-Elect).

We trust that this new structure will be highly beneficial to the operations of the LNO, that it will contribute positively to the six LIASA Strategic Directions and that it will assist in building a strong Association! We would like to thank all the REPCO members for their inputs, cooperation and support throughout the process and wish the candidates success in their new posts!

Looking ahead, finalising LIASA Membership renewals and applications for 2014 will be vital. To ensure that this new LNO structure is sustainable, the Association needs to maintain annual individual membership at 1600. Renewing your LIASA membership and motivating your colleagues and friends in the LIS sector to become LIASA members, are therefore very important. Please ensure that your contact details on the membership database is correct and that you have received your 2014 card through the post.

For any enquiries please contact Kagiso Ledwaba at membership@liasa.org.za or phone +27 (0) 12 328 2010 EXCO and Scatterlings, our Professional Conference Organisers, will be assisting with the arrangements for our 16th LIASA Conference to be held from 22 – 26 September 2014 at the Birchwood Conference Centre.

The newest LIASA flagship event adopted by the Representative Council during their meeting of 27 April 2014 to support “Open Access Week” will also be on the to do list. We trust that these and the many other challenges facing the Association will be addressed now that the new LNO structure is implemented. Please visit LIASA House between 8:00 -16:30 on Monday – Friday to meet the new staff members. You can also call Tel: (012) 323-4912, Fax: (012) 323-1033 or Email: liasa@liasa.org.za and cicd@liasa.org.za with any Association or other queries. Therese Eis, LIASA Secretary
Dear Colleagues
We commenced 2014 by adopting the theme “Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy” for our year-long activities so that the library and information services (LIS) sector, it would be an opportunity to reflect not only on how the sector has grown over these two decades but also how the various libraries and librarians are contributing to the entrenching libraries as an essential success. We still have a long way to acknowledge libraries as an essential community and development partner in the provision of access to information and knowledge resources towards the expansion of historically disparate services. We have been able to witness the growth and development of the LIS sector has grown over these two decades but also how the various libraries and librarians are contributing to the seeding and strengthening of democracy in South Africa.

Over the years South African Library Week (SALW) (http://www.liasa.org.za/node/991) has grown in stature and visibility and has succeeded in being recognized as a national partnership initiative. SALW 2014 celebrated during 15-22 March 2014 can be declared a resounding success in our calendar of activities. The theme “Celebrating 20 years of democracy: check in @your library” captured the imagination and motivating words encapsulated throughout the country. Interviews held on March 14 (Tebogo Ditshge and Ujala Satgoor) and March 22 2014 (Segametsi Molawa) may be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aY60pVkS38 and https://twitter.com/LIASANews/status/4488991. Mr Tebogo Ditshgo, the CEO of Ditshego Media and Chairperson of @ReadaBookSA, the largest Twitter based source centre and knowledge management and information worker in SA, contributed so generously to the identified schools. Whenever LIASA calls upon this sector, the response is overwhelming and I sincerely hope that this generous attitude of giving books to schools continues.

I wish to acknowledge the following sponsors who contributed to the success of the Week:
- the Department of Arts and Culture, the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport (Library Services), and the City of Cape Town Library and Information Services
- CiBLiS, CSX, Innovative Interfaces, Red Pepper Books, Sabinet, Tagtron and UKS for their sponsorship of the beautiful poster, which has become a sought after item.
- Publishers and booksellers who contributed so generously to the identified schools.
- National Library of South Africa (NLSA) and LIASA, the grant was awarded to a partnership project between the DAC, Libraries Program in Pretoria at the NLSA, and LIASA partners. I wish to acknowledge Akeela Gaibie, Ingrid Thomson and the team who facilitated this process so wonderfully. To all the librarians who nominated over 250 titles your work does not go unnoticed and unappreciated as evident in the words of Zakes Mda: “I am both grateful and honored for the singular “prize” of having two of my novels on the list. What makes this honor greater than the many prizes that I have received in my writing life is that this is the choice of the Librarians of South Africa, people who have their ear to the ground as to what South Africans are reading. Most of the lists that I have seen are compiled by some “literary expert” from the academy or from the book reviewing community. This honor is bestowed upon me by the readers of South Africa as represented by the Librarians. I cannot thank LIASA enough and of course I will treasure this for the rest of my days.

In continuing the work of our predecessors as librarians, let us continue being strong library advocates and bold in our campaigns. While SALW emerges as an opportune time to promote libraries, we have a right to be heard on as many platforms and as often as possible as we journey into the next decade of democracy!

John Tsebe, the former Chief Executive Officer of National Library South Africa (NLSA). In his address he congratulated LIASA for choosing this day for the national launch around 21st March. In launching this Library Week all of us will work “together to do more and better” as custodians of published national heritage because in our respective countries we are occupying critical positions. We are in the business of information dissemination. Information plays a critical role in human life. Information is the key strategic resource for human survival and development. Working together we will be able to optimally utilize our national libraries as centers of access to knowledge.

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

LIASA-in-Touch June 2014 • Volume 15 • Issue 2

Celebrating Libraries in 20 years of democracy, check in @ your library
Department National School of Government celebrate South African Library Week 2014

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

The key note speaker at the event was Mr. John Tsebe, the former Chief Executive Officer of National Library South Africa (NLSA). In his address he congratulated LIASA for choosing this day for the national launch around 21st March. In launching this Library Week all of us will work “together to do more and better” as custodians of published national heritage because in our respective countries we are occupying critical positions. We are in the business of information dissemination. Information plays a critical role in human life. Information is the key strategic resource for human survival and development. Working together we will be able to optimally utilize our national libraries as centers of access to knowledge.

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president’s message

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The National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS) is a body established in terms of the National Council for Library and Information Services Act, 2001 (Act No 6 of 2001). The object of the NCLIS is to advise the Ministers of Arts and Culture, Basic Education and Higher Education and Training on matters relating to Library and Information Services in order to support and stimulate the socio-economic, educational, cultural, recreational, scientific research, technological and information development of all communities in the country. The functions of the Council are to develop and coordinate library and information services in the country.

The following are members (listed alphabetically) of the NCLIS for the period 2012-2014:

1. Dick, A (Prof) (Chairperson) - University of Pretoria (UP) (resigned in October 2013 due to work commitments)
2. Dlamini, B I (Ms) – Gauteng Department of Education (GDE)
3. Matthee, T (Mr) – Drakenstein Municipality
4. Mhinga, RS (Ms) – Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Polokwane Campus
5. Molawa, BMS (Ms) – Agricultural Research Council (ARC)
6. Nassimbeni, M C (Prof) – University of Cape Town (UCT)
7. Nzimande, S (Ms) – KwaZulu Natal Department of Arts and Culture
8. Sewdass, P (Mr) – Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
9. Vahed, LAK (Ms) – University of Zululand
10. Van der Walt, PR (Mr) – City of Cape Town Library and Information Services
11. Van Wyk, M (Ms) – Emfuleni Local Municipality
12. Webster, L (Ms) – Durban University of Technology (DUT) (Chairperson with effect 2014)

Ex-officio members
- One officer of the department nominated by the Director-General;
- One officer each from both departments of Education nominated by the Director-General of the departments
- National Librarian referred to in section 1 of the National Library of South Africa Act, 1998 (Act No. 92 of 1998)
- Director of the South African Library for the Blind
- One representative nominated by LIASA.(president of LIASA)

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Ministers of Arts and Culture and Basic and Higher Education on matters relating to LIS in order to:
- Support and stimulate the socio-economic, educational, cultural, recreational, scientific research, technological and information development of all communities in the country; and
- Provide optimal access to relevant information to every person in an economic and cost-effective manner.

Functions
The Council must inform and advise the Ministers on matters relating to:
- Development and co-ordination of LIS
- Promotion of co-operation among LIS
- Legislation affecting LIS
- Policies, principles and criteria that should govern the allocation of public funds for LIS
- Existing adequacies and deficiencies of Library and Information resources, including literature in African languages, and services
- The effectiveness of LIS education and training;
- Service priorities, after consultation with any organ of State responsible for LIS and other interested parties;
- The promotion of basic and functional literacy, information literacy and a culture of reading;
- Ways in which new information and communication technologies should be harnessed to achieve improved integration, equity, cost-effectiveness and quality in LIS
- Any other matter relating to LIS which the Council deems necessary or which any of the Ministers may refer to the Council.

Vision and Mission
Vision: To position South Africa as the best-informed nation
Mission: To provide strategic leadership and advocacy for literacy, a culture of reading and writing, innovation and open access to information

Due to a heavy workload the chairperson of NCLIS Prof Archie Dick resigned in October 2013. Ms. L. Webster was appointed as the new chairperson with effect from January 2014 until December 2015.

Transformation Charter
The National Council for Library and Information Services are happy to announce that the final draft of the Transformation Charter was completed in March of 2014 and submitted to the Ministers of Arts and Culture and Basic and Higher Education in April 2014. Having reached this milestone NCLIS look forward to introduce this inspiring document to the LIS at large.

The first draft was presented to the Minister of Arts and Culture in July 2008, and the second draft was presented to the National Summit early in December 2008 for public scrutiny and deliberation. In 2009, the sixth draft was presented and after feedback from the Minister of Education and Arts and Culture at the time, work started on the final edition of the Charter to accommodate the suggestions that were received. In 2014 the Charter was revised and updated in alignment with new circumstances.

Introduction of VAT on electronic resources and the impact on libraries
The Council discussed this issue at length in their November 2013 meeting which culminated in a letter to the Ministers strongly condemning the introduction of VAT. The Ministers were requested to communicate with cabinet as this decision will not be in the best interest of government’s goal to provide access to all citizens, to education and to the socio-economic development in the country.

Minimum uniform norms and standards for public schools infrastructure
The National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS) has perused the regulations relating to the norms and standards and submitted a response to DBE. The Council expressed their deep concern regarding the timeframes set by this new draft amongst others and noted that the final version took note and incorporated some of the recommendations made by the Council.

Lucille Webster
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South African Library Week launch event

This year, the Western Cape Library Service, Department Cultural Affairs and Sport, celebrated the launch of South African Library Week at the National Library of South Africa, Company Gardens, Cape Town.

These celebrations continued until 22 March 2014 and ran at libraries across the country.

The launch event was a partnership between the National Department of Arts and Culture, National Library of South Africa, the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), the City of Cape Town, and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

Launched by the DAC Deputy Director General, Vusi Ndima, the event marked the 20th year celebration of the role of libraries in South Africa as a democracy. This is also resonated in the theme: Celebrating Libraries in 20 years of democracy: check-in @ your library. The event was twofold: a formal programme, together with a public event where local children were entertained with storytelling, outdoor board games (chess included), action cricket, ball games and face-painting.

Programme director and ambassador for SA Library Week, Tebogo Ditshego, with his sparkling and dynamic personality, added some vibrance to the formal event. Speakers at the formal event included: LIASA president, Ujala Satgoor, Library Service Director, Nomaza Dingayo, City of Cape Town councillor, Belinda Walker, acting National Librarian, Rachel More, the

LIASA president-elect, Segaemtsi Molawa and representatives of the National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS) and Nalibali.

Soloist Amanda Lemmer mesmerized the audience with her “Renaissance” song commending librarians on the work that they do. The audience was also entertained by the Elises River Library Dance Group, who added a lighter touch to the event.

LIASA also facilitated the handover of SA Library Week posters to all partners together with book donations to four local schools.

Another highlight was the announcement of the South African Librarians Choice: Top 20 books published between 1994 and 2014. Long walk to freedom by Nelson Mandela was selected as the top title, followed by Country of my skull by Antjie Krog and I have life: Alison’s story by Marianne Thamm.

The event also marked the announcement of the cash injection by the Department of Arts and Culture for the upgrading of libraries. The money will be allocated to provincial libraries to upgrade existing facilities, recruit more staff and build new libraries. The aim is to transform libraries into more social and information hubs.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation also announced the funding of R32 million to the National Library of South Africa to pilot the Gates Foundation Global Libraries Project over the next two years. The project includes training library staff in information and communication technology (ICT), expanding ICT in public libraries, introducing new libraries to support community development and redesigning library interiors.

DCAS Director for Library Service, Nomaza Dingayo, emphasized the importance of library programmes that are beneficial to communities. “Through this launch and the week-long programmes that libraries will offer during Library Week 2014, DCAS and its partners are better together.”

Ethniew Waters
Library Services
Department of Cultural Affairs & Sport
Western Cape Government

South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) reaches out to its branch in Sutherland

A zero rand budget should not be a barrier to doing something for a community in need or for a department to venture out on outreach activities. The initial idea for the event was born under the ‘tree of knowledge’ (as we; Thembele, Thobeke, Michael and I, call it) during a lunch break about a month ago. We did not let the idea just be a thought, but we grew the baby into a successful event.

Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy: check in @ Sutherland library and ‘Be a Star Reader’ was the theme of this event. Meetings upon meetings and eventually approval for the concept and yet no funds! The week’s event consisted of school visits, a competition per grade group and afternoon informative activities. Who should we call; who should we ask and who should respond: be it positive or negative? I want to thank the following organisations and staff members for believing in us through their in-kind donations:

- Northern Cape Provincial Library Services (NCPLS): Allen Swartbooi (Director Library Services) – partnered with SAAO library services and donated half the food and snacks for the week, availed the time of two staff members to assist with the programme and activities during the week, sponsored prizes and book donations, paid for the PEP vouchers for stationery;
- Western Cape Education Department (WCED): Theresa de Young (School libraries and current LIASA librarian of the year) for the book donations as prizes;
- Big Bug Books – Paula Raubenheimer (Author) for book donations as prizes;
- Shuter & Shooter Publishers – Ilse Oosthuizen (Publisher) for book donations as prizes;
- Pick n Pay head office – Judy van Aswegen (Pick n Pay Corporate Social Responsibility) for donations towards food, snacks and prizes;
- Legado Learning Coaching & Consulting – Claudi & Nicola Woodman (Founders of Legado) for fruit donation;
- LIASA Western Cape – Ingrid Thomson (WC chair) for t-shirts and small gifts;
- SALT Collateral Benefits Programme (SCBP) Cape Town – Sivuyile Manxoyi for t-shirts provided;
- Astronomy division – Stephen Potter for funds to cover the cost of activity material.
- Sneeuwlokkie Hall – Margie Klein (Manager) for providing the hall free of charge.
- I want to thank the following colleagues and staff members for their assistance and hard work:
- SCBP Sutherland – Anthony & Karel for assistance and help with activities during the event;
- Hostel staff Sutherland – Sienna & Magdalena for assistance with kitchen utensils;
- Library volunteer - Shalom Kwonglee for assistance with activities and all the photos during the event;
- SCBP Cape Town – Thembele for coordination, information and prize hunting;
Ms Segametsi Molawa (LIASA President-elect) was invited to share the platform with Mr Jeremy Cronin (Deputy Minister of Public Works) in launching SA Library Week at the DPW in Pretoria, on the 17 March 2014. It was a big event that included the raising of awareness and sharing of information in critical areas of the employee’s life through various exhibitions, organised by Ms Florence Matlala.

Ms Naicker from Strategic Management Unit (SMU) at DPW, led the discussion by explaining the 2014 South African Library Week (SALW) theme: Celebrating Libraries in 20 Years of Democracy: Check in @ Your Library, emphasising that it is aimed at celebrating our country’s intellectual and literary heritage of the past 20 years and to promote the right to freedom of access to information.

The campaign is aimed at highlighting the value of libraries in the development of the nation’s intellectual capacity, which in turn instils the culture of reading in order to create an informed nation. It is also showcasing libraries as desired spaces for connecting people to reach each other, and provide learning resources. Libraries connect communities, government, to the world and its environment. They are also positioned as one-stop shops for information at all times.

In his keynote address the Public Works Deputy Minister remarked about the critical need to keep the departmental institutional memory. The Departmental library is expected to deliver that role with excellence and ensure that the corporate memory is preserved. Without a good system, most of the DPW institutional memory gets lost. With the coming and going of Ministers and Directors-General (DGs), DPW is losing most of its corporate memory.

The Deputy Minister recalled his youth when he frequented the local library to empower himself with knowledge which enabled him to contribute to fighting the apartheid system. He ended up in jail and being denied access to information. He then studied Librarianship when he was in prison, around the 1970s, for the sake of convenience, just to ensure that he and other prisoners gain access to political reading material and more sources of information. He acknowledged the power of reading and access to libraries, if we want to make South Africa a better country.

Speaking on behalf of LIASA during the launch, Segametsi outlined the background of Library Week indicating that it dates back to 20 March 1818 when the first Public library in South Africa was opened, which is today known as the National Library, Cape Town campus. The significance of the 21 March (Human Rights Day) was also highlighted in line with the right to information access.

After sharing the state of libraries in South Africa, the strides that the LIS sector has made with the support of relevant stakeholders, the contribution of libraries to the knowledge economy, provision of access to global knowledge and information in different formats to advance research and the creation of new knowledge, the great need to read for pleasure, she challenged the audience on the role we should all play against the burning down of libraries during the service delivery protests that impacts negatively on the progress made thus far. She made a call inviting all to visit their library at DPW and their local public libraries.

Ms Florence Matlala (DD: Knowledge Management), Ms Segametsi Molawa, Mr Jeremy Cronin, Mr Clive Mtshisa (DDG Corporate Services) and Ms Anbigay Naicker
The fear of crime keeps many students stay away from the Library in the evenings. Besides the social isolation, our students find themselves forced to miss out on using our study space, internet facilities and professional guidance.

Our Library Week activities included a panel discussion to look at ways to stop criminal acts against our students who live-off campus in the Umlazi Township. We invited our student housing department and protection services as well as the SA Police Services to share their experiences and lessons, and to identify steps we can take together. Stakeholders agreed that individual efforts can never be enough and there is a need for collaboration all the time. All stakeholders are committed to working together.

The Protection Services Department runs ongoing anti-crime awareness campaigns to give students safety tips. “We are also going to provide an escorting service and overnight storage facilities in the evenings,” says Sizwe Nkabinde from Protection Services.

The Umlazi SAPS is a major partner in support of the university’s anti-crime programmes. “We step up our patrols along known crime hotspots especially during exam periods,” says Warrant Officer Dumisani Nyide. “Crime is a problem everywhere and sometimes all it takes is to be at the wrong place at the wrong time,” he says.

During its efforts to find suitable accommodation for students, the Student Affairs Department established networks with local leaders, community groups as well as taxi associations. “We are building strong relationships with our neighbours because we would like them to accept our students as people who belong to the community as well,” says Mthoko Ntuli from Student Affairs. “Every little thing we fail to do will affect our students for the rest of their lives. Long after they have left our campus,” he says.

Mr Zolile Machi
Projects Librarian: Library Services
Mangosuthu University of Technology

The Merensky II auditorium was jam-packed and the 100+ students were inspired by Tebogo’s message as indicated by the following tweets received on Twitter at #UPTebogo:

“Do things on purpose so you can live a life of purpose.” - Lapaka
“Your purpose in life is greater than your ignorance is obviously bad for our democracy. We also know that libraries are agencies that support learning and the search for knowledge. So it is clear that the free flow of information is the strand that connects libraries and democracy. Our country can only blossom when citizens are able to exchange ideas openly and make informed choices to shape their own future.

Yet stubborn barriers still make it difficult for some people to access information today. Our Library Week at Mangosuthu University of Technology focused on promoting the rights of our students to access information.

Our students, like other young people all over the country today, belong to the new generation that bears no scars of apartheid persecution. But the experience of living and schooling in the middle of poverty, illiteracy and lack of access to computers, prompts them to try to catch up and work extra hard in their studies.

We keep our doors open from morning until late, for seven day a week. Our Library usually gets packed full during the day. But the demand on our after-hours services is very low.

The university provides accommodation on campus and in external residences for over half the student population. But many students, especially at first level, go out and find rental accommodation in the surrounding Umlazi areas. These students travel or walk to campus and become soft targets for local thugs who terrorise and rob them.

Incidents of theft, cellular phones, or laptops being taken at gun-point have increased recently.

Tebogo Ditshego at the University of Pretoria

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“Do things on purpose so you can live a life of purpose.” - Lapaka
“Your purpose in life is greater than your...
Unisa Library celebrates in style with South African Poet Laureate Professor Keorapetse Kgositsile

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

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

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

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

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

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

Author of over ten books of poetry and essays, Professor Kgositsile was awarded an honorary doctorate by Unisa in 2013 for his extraordinary contribution to the arts and literature in South Africa. He helped place South Africa’s artistic life – and the impact of the injustices of apartheid – on the global map while living in exile in different African countries and in the United States of America.

For more photographs of the event, please visit: http://showme.co.za/pretoria/interactive/south-african-library-week-unisa-check-in/

A blast from the past...

PACLIG NEC celebrated our SA Library week theme with a very pictorial on-line presentation which was cascaded to all via the Listserv. The pictures brought back fond memories and showcased how libraries have changed over the years. The presentation was compiled by Christelle Lubbe the Chair – Elect of PACLIG NEC. Avishana and Christelle received many compliments from members and requests for them to use our pictures in displays or on their Facebook pages.

Jaycee Moodley
PACLIG NEC (PRO)
LIASA KwaZulu-Natal launch SALW

On Monday 17 March, the LIASA KZN Branch launched SA Library Week with 600 learners and invited guests at the Ekupheleni Primary School in Adams on the KZN South Coast.

Guests were warmly welcomed by educators and pupils from the school. The learners performed traditional dances, choral verses and showcased their talents at storytelling. On a site visit to the school prior to our function, the BEC noticed that the school had a well kept library with computers but no internet access. Therefore decided to approach the MD of UKS to sponsor the school with computer software such as encyclopedias on CD-Rom, educational CD-ROM games and puzzles for their library. Bongiwe Shongwe represented UKS in the handover of the items to the delighted principal, Bongani Mashudula and educators of Ekupheleni Primary.

LIASA KZN BEC members are proud to say that they launched South African Library Week 2014 in the successful celebratory style that KZN is known for!!!

Avishana Kushial
LIASA (KZN): PRO

LIASA Gauteng-South Open Day

LIASA Gauteng South celebrated libraries in 20 years of democracy at the Westonaria Public Library on 19 March 2014 with the theme “Check-in @ your library”.

The branch chairperson, Ms Phindile Bekwa, was the programme director for the day. The guests were welcomed by the Executive Manager: Community Services, Ms Tokky Morolo. The guest speaker, Ms Koekie Meyer: the Director of Libraries and Archives Services presented South African libraries achievements and challenges in the 20 years of democracy. Other speakers included Ms Cathy Donaldson, the President of Blind SA and Mr William Stewart, the LIASA Champion of Professional Skills Development from the City of Johannesburg Libraries. It was a pleasure to listen to a presentation entitled “The monster that swallowed my husband” by Ms Lina Vogel, a school teacher, and Thelma Simpson from Association of the Regional Magistrates of South Africa.

LIASA members and Information Specialists shared their life-changing experiences with the guests by showing the benefits of being members of LIASA. Ms Rebecca Senyolo, who was the Branch Librarian of the Year 2012, presented “Celebrating milestones of my career” and Ms Lindi Nhlapo of the IFLA Africa Desk, presented “IFLA liquorice: all sorts”. Ms Marina van Wyk, the National LOY 2013 first runner-up presented posters.

Other highlights of the morning included performances by an interschool boys’ choir, and poems rendered by Mpho Khosi. A puppet show was presented to our children guests by Mr Johan Swanevelder from Peter Productions. Mr Mokoena from the Johannesburg City Library Book Club reviewed a book.

Exhibitors included LIASA, UKS, City of Johannesburg Libraries, NB Publishers, Lapa Publishers, BlindSA, The Concrete Institute, Goethe Institute, Pearson, Shuter & Shooter and Oxford University Press. The event was concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr Ben Ramela, the branch Chair-elect.
For SA Library Week, Central Library staff together with the Open Book Festival constructed a book maze with 80 000 books. The books, all new, were donated by Penguin Books, SA and David Phillips/New Africa Publishers.

The maze, with walls higher than the average person, remained in the Arena in the heart of Central, for just over two weeks where children enjoyed running through it while adults took to salivating over the titles because, they knew come the end of the month, they would be able to help themselves to free books.

On 26 March 2014, the project, called Pulp Fiction – The Saga Continues took over in full flurry as librarians, teachers and NGOs from across the City filled the Book Maze and started dismantling it by selecting books for their communities, as they saw fit.

By the second day, the books had been declared free-for-all, and within 24 hours all 80 000 books had disappeared. The books had been saved from pulping, and Central and Open Book staff were happy for an event deemed more than successful. We had planned for a weeklong dismantle but were happy to learn that the love of books is alive and well in Cape Town!

Akeela Gabie
Central Library
DO YOU LOVE YOUR LIBRARY?
JOIN CENTRAL STAFF & OUR MOBILE LIBRARY ON A FRIENDLY MARCH TO PROMOTE LIBRARY SERVICES

MEET @ CENTRAL ON TUESDAY 18 MARCH @ 9:30AM
JOIN THE FUN – FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

Central Library marching through Cape Town as part of the launch of SALW 2014

During Library Week with loudhailers, and colourful banners held aloft, a band of passionate librarians from Central Library, the National Library of South Africa and the Centre for the Book took to the streets of Cape Town, with the sleek new mobile bus from District 2 in the City of Cape Town, in tow. Their aim: To proclaim their love of books and reading, while inviting everybody on the streets of Cape Town to visit libraries and perchance discover new worlds. The positive ruckus in the heart of town was stridently supported by hooting vehicles and people declaring their support from patios and stores en route. This was the third “Love Your Library” march organised by the staff of Central Library and it will remain an annual event on our Library Week calendar.

We hope more librarians and booklovers will join us next year, as we continue our quest to spread the word about our free LIS services, access to information and the value and joys of books and reading!

Akeela Gaibie
Central Library

SALW becomes a month of celebration at LIS Westonaria

On top of the normal reading clubs (six different locations per week, nine sessions per week) there were two highlights ensuring our customers of lots of educational fun centring on books and reading.

On 8 March 2014, internationally acclaimed Australian poet Luka Lesson was hosted at the Main Library in Westonaria. Talking to local youth about his own run in with racial discrimination in the Australian educational system, Luka encouraged the youth to keep on marching against current social injustices. “Being thoughtful of another culture, you no longer see the sticky label, but the unique human being behind the label,” said Luka.

In a grand closing gesture, Luka handed out complimentary copies of his latest anthology on which is titled “Please Resist Me” to attending youth.

The interschool choir “Mapping the Soul’s Future” was also recorded live performing alongside poet Mpho Khosi inside the library and this will be broadcast on YOUTUBE as well as Australian TV.

The official South African Library Week celebrations for LIASA Gauteng South was held at the Main Library in Westonaria on 19 March 2014. The event was kick-started by Johan Swanevelder of Peterproductions, in the form of a puppet show for preschool scholars.

From there the programme moved on to a much more serious note with local author, Lina Vogel, and Regional Magistrate, Thelma Simpson, speaking about how democracy is working to protect the most vulnerable in our society, namely our children and women.

The IFLA Africa Desk was represented by Lindi Nhlapo showing how librarians across the continent and the world work together to help their customers “go beyond access” when it comes to providing library services.

Westonaria Library was also very proud to host the launch of “WoW”, an anthology of youth poetry from Gauteng. In her address, Director for Archives and Libraries – Gauteng Division, Koekie Meyer said that all libraries should aspire to follow the example of Westonaria LIS as this anthology provides the reader with a window into our nation’s soul.

Ms Cathy Donaldson, President of Blind SA spoke on how democracy has impacted on the lives of the visually impaired over the past 20 years. Sadly our public education system is still failing our citizens in this regard with no hand books being delivered to visually impaired scholars. This is indeed a serious issue which needs to be investigated in order to address the demands of a modern democratic economy.

This was followed by a most enlightening book review by the President of the Johannesburg Book Club, Mr Sipho Mabaso, on Philida, a novel by André P Brink. Through his discussion Mr Mabaso painted a vivid picture of slavery as not simply something of the past but how even a so called democracy can be enslaved by rulers who are oblivious to morality and that we as free citizens have a duty to ensure a just, peaceful and righteous future for generations to come.

The programme was a collaborative effort by institutions like the Gauteng Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts & Culture, LIASA, (Library & Information Society of South Africa), ARMSA, (Association of Regional Magistrates for Southern Africa) and Word&Sound, who all share the idea that the preservation of culture is an important building block for protecting our democracy and human rights.

On 28 March 2014 senior staff of LIS Westonaria, along with a delegation from the US Consulate to South Africa also waved goodbye to Refilwe Tlali, grade 12 scholar from Westonaria High School. Refilwe is one of three young South Africans chosen to represent our young democracy in the USA for the PAN AFRICAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME.

Righardt le Roux
Programme Librarian Westonaria

Jamie van Rensburg with Australian poet Luka Lesson

Koekie Meyer, Director Libraries & Archives - Gauteng Division, with poet Mpho Khosi
Coligny Community Library
(Northwest)

Although the Library in Coligny was busy with renovations during Library week, Henriët van Loggerenberg, the Librarian did manage to get some children to "Check in @ the Library". This time round children who love to read, had to come in and read for other children. Good to know, that there was some children who could not wait to read to their friends of the Library. Here is Juan Moorcroft, one of the eager readers in Coligny Library reading a short story to other children.

The various créches in Thlabologang, the informal settlement near Coligny, visit the Library on a regular basis. This is to introduce the Library to future members. The teachers then also read to the children in their mother tongue.

At the back is Henriët van Loggerenberg the Librarian and her assistant Mandie Rademeyer with some of the teachers of Grace Early Learning Centre.

Henriët van Loggerenberg, Librarian

Woodstock Library (Cape Town) honours its library faithful for SALW 2014

Woodstock Library SALW party for senior citizens

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Free State Libraries: Celebrating 20 years of Democracy

On 19 March 2014 the FS branch celebrated libraries in 20 years of democracy as part of the 2014 SALW celebrations. Representatives of 5 different libraries shared with the branch members their institutions’ accomplishments from 1994-2014:

Central University of Technology Library ~ Ms Dora Ackerman

Ms Ackerman presented to the meeting the PPP (People, Places, Products) of the past 20 years.

She showed pictures of the growth in the number of staff members and the three directors they had so far. They also attended to the development of their library users and community, with first years’ orientation, training programs, like information literacy, and community engagement projects (adopt-a-school Lirecko High School, donating books to community libraries, Mandela Day celebrations).

Photos of the different ‘places’ where the library was housed to the move to their current specially built building in 1997 were shown – clearly indicating the development of technology at the same time.

Development Centres give support to the teachers through toy library material, books, newspapers, magazines, models, etc. the mobile library Project is also run by them.

The Central Education Library offers a library and information service to all the professional and administrative officials, educators and registered homebased educators in the province.

FS Provincial Library & Information Service ~ Ms Jacomien Schimper

At Free State public libraries there have also been dramatic changes in the way value is added to the life of every person in every community. A newly adopted vision for the Free State Provincial Library & Information Service (FSPLIS) summarizes the approach: Libraries for All. Gaps were identified by putting the focus on certain areas that needed change, i.e. library buildings, services addressing the changing needs of communities, ICT infrastructure, capacity building and training, events, development projects.

Since 1994 44 of the 121 public libraries had been brought nearer to the communities it served and 28 new service points, plus 9 school/community libraries have been added to the system. It was evident that the traditional recreational role of the public library was rapidly moving towards that of a study and information centre. This need was addressed by providing large study areas with plenty of study cubicles, space for a study collection, and a few years onwards fully-equipped computer rooms with Internet access, e-mail and word processing facilities.

To address the changing needs of the communities, they adapted designs of new libraries to make very specific provision for ramps and ablution facilities for the physically handicapped. In 2011 fifteen libraries with visually impaired and blind members received Daisy reader equipment and SuperNova computer software. The FSPLIS also goes to great lengths to source local talent and ordered books published by local authors.

In 1994 no computers were available at public libraries, but in 2014 170 out of 172 libraries are fully computerized. In April 1989, the first computerized library system was introduced at the Provincial Head Office. By 2012 all libraries received equipment for community access (i-Access Paradigm); Embrace social interactions/networks using social media by providing large study areas with plenty of study cubicles, space for a study collection, and a few years onwards fully-equipped computer rooms with Internet access, e-mail and word processing facilities.

Gaps in terms of the training and empowerment of public library workers are bridged by means of a yearly capacity building workshop and Annual General Meeting. 35 bursaries have been allocated and maintained and the FSPLIS is proud to announce that three students are graduated librarians.

Since 1994, the FSPLIS has become more visible by reaching out to communities through events like Freedom Day, Madiba Day, Heritage Day and the 2010 Soccer World Cup. Special exhibitions were designed and activities are presented to raise communities’ awareness of the services that are available at local public libraries.

Development projects are probably the busiest hub of the FSPLIS: with annual projects like SA Library Week, World Book and Copyright Day, a Spelling bee contest and an A re Ithuteng Reading Programme. In 2014, the service has implemented 42 new toy libraries.

Mangaung Metro Municipality Libraries ~ Ms Renett Bam

Ms Bam took us down memory lane showing the development in the ways library services were delivered.

She showed photographs of the coloured carton library cards the library users received and handed in when borrowing books and now the small laminated barcoded ID cards to be scanned when borrowing books.

Next was the big stamp used to stamp the returning date on the date sheets and now the small printer printing out lists of borrowed items per borrower.

The format of library material also changed over the years: from long play records to CDs, from video cassettes to DVDs and from printed books to e-books.

The big card catalogue cabinet with thousands of catalogue cards was replaced by the electronic catalogue showing the holdings in all branch libraries.

The number of libraries also grew over the years. First there was the one main library in town and now there are Bainsvlei Library, Botshabelo Library, BP Leinaeng Library, Fichardtpark Library, Mangaung Library and Trevor Barlow Library.

University of the Free State Library ~ Ms Betsy Eister

The UFS had to rethink the library and information services over the past years:

Rethink its role to manage the services by objectives; Quantifiable contribution towards academic success of students and advancement of teaching and research; Enhance Physical and Virtual presence (e-Strategies, etc); Information Literacy for all First Year students; Increase visibility (Student Ambassadors, etc); From Collection centeredness to User centeredness; Community engagement; Customer care.

Rethink staff component: re-skill staff with capacity to deliver services to students of the day; equity and embrace diversity.

Rethink LIS infrastructure: mission of presenting itself as the physical and virtual information hub of choice: Initially built for 10 000 students and now UFS has 33 000 students; Reflect 21st century LIS that is technologically advanced, accommodate users with disabilities, are clean and safe places that users can be proud of; Move from adequacy of collection to adequacy of access (i-Access Paradigm); Embrace social interactions/networks using social media by adapting the physical and virtual spaces to make them more appealing to users of the day; Colourful and different study spaces for quiet studying, leisure reading, reading newspapers, accessing wired and wireless connections, for individual studying (study carrels), for discussions, and spaces for relaxing.

Rethink community engagement: book discussions; book clubs; Mandela Day celebrations.

Ema Mostert (Chairperson, FS Branch)
Our passion for libraries began at an early age.

And we remain committed to supporting South African libraries well into the future.
Interpreting a theme: City of Cape Town Libraries Best Display Award

The City of Cape Town libraries ran its 6th Best Display of the Year Award to coincide with SA Library Week. The award requires libraries to create a display based on the SALW theme and is then judged on the following criteria:
- Creativity
- How well the display aligned to the theme
- Marketing of resources and services
- Role that the team played
- Use of recycled material

This year saw 24 libraries entering, with 21 eventually participating. Once again, the ingenuity of librarians came to the fore with their interpretation of the theme. While I cannot show all the photos (although I would like to), the following is a snippet of the creativity of our colleagues.

The finalists for this year sees Kuils River Library, Brackenfell Library and Mowbray Library competing for the ultimate prize. The winner will be announced at the Departmental Service Awards scheduled for 15 September 2014.

Nazeem Hardy

The Best Big Public Library in the Western Cape

Central Library deems it an honour to have been named the Best Big Public Library in the Western Cape at a prestigious awards evening that took place at the Artscape Theatre Centre in Cape Town on 10 February 2014.

In addition to providing an excellent collection and access to much-needed resources to the public, the Central Library team exerts itself to provide beneficial and vital programming in its efforts to uplift the communities it serves.

It is indeed gratifying to have our efforts acknowledged and we are delighted by our win. We submitted three nominations for the Western Cape Cultural Awards, including the one mentioned above. Central was also shortlisted for the Best Public Library: Youth Services award in recognition of the remarkable work we do with the teens who frequent our premises. We also submitted a nomination for Best Public Library: Children’s Services because of the enjoyable and empowering programmes we offer to the many children who visit Central Library.

The hardworking and winning team at Central is elated by the award and we will use the momentum gained from the acknowledgement to spur us on to even greater heights!

Akeela Gaibie
Senior Librarian, Central Library

Archbishop Desmond Tutu at Central Library

The Arena at Central Library was crowded to capacity with almost as many adults, as children, for the launch of Let there be light by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. And everyone was equally bowled over by the cleric’s presence and magnetic charm. One little four-year-old boy was so entranced he couldn’t help but announce to the Archbishop, in a hushed moment, “I think you’re adorable”. This was met with delighted cries from the audience who seemed to agree wholeheartedly. It was an hour of pure enchantment, as the Arch attempted to read to the children, who were slightly more intent on having a discussion with him than listening to him read!

Akeela Gaibie
Senior Librarian, Central Library

Archbishop Desmond Tutu engaging with a little girl at Central Library in Cape Town, on 25 April 2014, at a special launch of his new children’s book, Let there be light
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Louwville is economically a very poor township near Vredenburg on the West Coast that is struggling with all the known social ills that come with being a township. The school itself is awaiting a brick and mortar building and is still using prefabricated wooden buildings as classrooms.

Near Vredenburg on the West Coast, Louwville High School received the 32 conference bags that were donated through the Western Cape Education Department. These were given to the Grade 11 learners who each received a book to read.

Theresa de Young

Grade 11 learners also received a book each from the WC DoE
Biblionef wins award at WC Cultural Affairs Awards Ceremony

Thank you to the South African Library and Information (SALI) Trust, Biblionef has been able to donate books to 7 schools in the Piketberg area. Biblionef is a book donation organisation that provides new local language books to under-resourced children’s organisations.

A total of 2722 children attend these 7 schools and the teachers were overjoyed with the lovely new books, mostly in Afrikaans as it’s the mother tongue of the children in the West Coast area. Mrs Suzanne van Niekerk of DoE West Coast area in responding to the donation said “These schools immediately had more resources at their disposal and the books that Biblionef donated were so interesting, beautiful and colourful that the children just want to hold of the books and delight in them.

The SALI Trust has supported Biblionef with funds for various other projects since 2007, including a Research Project into the impact of Biblionef's book donations on children, the reorganization of 6 primary school libraries in 2009 and the donation of books to 3 schools in 2012.

Biblionef’s main aim is to make books accessible for all children and to date Biblionef have donated 1.2 million books to children’s organisations countrywide. Biblionef donates up to 12 000 books per month to schools, after care centres, crèches and other literacy organisations. Biblionef’s vision is to create life-long readers who can become good citizens who can read and think for themselves.

The children who are beneficiaries do not have access to Public Libraries because the communities they live in are too isolated.

We know that the books our two organisations donated have had a major impact on the children attending the 7 schools because of the reports Biblionef received from the teachers.

“We can already see the improvements in literacy levels brought about by the learners having the books. Their vocabulary is much better. The children really enjoy the books and it’s a great pleasure to see the sparkle in their eyes when reading time begins.”

“Learners are learning to read the stories as well as to tell them in their own words. They even tell them to older people in their own words. This helps them improve their communication skills. We can see that an improvement in vocabulary has also been reached.”

“Their vocabulary and language proficiency has increased greatly. Learners are learning to tell the stories contained in the books as well as write them in their own words and have even dramatized some of the stories.”

“Everyone was so excited about their new, clean, interesting books.”

Jean Williams
Biblionef

SALI Trust’s book donation brings joy to children at 7 schools
Workshop on the importance of Research Data Management (RDM)

LIASA Western Cape Higher Education Libraries Interest Group and the National Higher Education Libraries Interest Group hosted a one-day workshop on 27 March 2014 at CPUT Library, Bellville Campus, presented by the Digital Curation Centre (Glasgow, UK). LISC (UCT) financially supported the visit by two delegates from the DCC, and kindly allowed WCHELIG and HELIG one day for the presentation of this workshop.

This workshop saw a number of “firsts” for LIASA HELIG and WCHELIG:
- The use of OCS to manage registrations and payments
- The use of clicker technology to conduct a survey on research data management readiness and
- Hosting a workshop presented by international experts

International presenters were Joy Davidson, Associate Director of the DCC and Sarah Jones, Senior Institutional Support Officer. Joy leads the DCC’s training provision and sits on a number of international working groups to define digital curricula. Sarah is mainly involved in the DCC institutional engagement program, supporting universities to develop research data management services. She also contributes to the delivery of training, publications and tools development.

Dr Lucia Lötter, the manager of the Data Curation unit of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), presented an overview of the SA data management landscape.

Registrations received from all over the country demonstrated a huge demand for training on data management. The workshop was attended by 46 individuals (including the presenters) from research intensive institutions.

This workshop built on the DCC roadshow and offered practical examples, guidance and existing tools. Discussions and the sharing of practical examples, guidance and existing tools were addressing RDM and learning lessons from their experience. Exercises and discussions were addressing RDM and learning lessons from others.

In the evaluation, the top three things people found most valuable about the workshop were: Insights about how others were addressing RDM and learning lessons from their experience, Exercises and discussions and the sharing of practical examples, guidance and existing tools.

Sarah and Joy reported the following via the DCC news blog at http://www.dcc.ac.uk/news/rdm-south-africa:

“Across all these visits and events we were struck by the level of engagement and interest in RDM. There are not yet national mandates, but universities want to make sure they’re keeping pace with international counterparts. There was also an impressive willingness to share and desire to lobby for regional or national approaches to infrastructure development rather than everyone reinventing wheels. That said, universities are being proactive and getting started where they can rather than waiting on solutions, being mindful of the need to use standards to permit future integration.”

LIASA HELIG worked with the DCC on a RDM webinar in 2013. This was so successful that it inspired their own series of webinars that were started this year. And they were really impressed with the use of clicker technology in this workshop and are currently investigating options to use this in future DCC events.

Joy and Sarah say: “We are hugely in debt to all who made this workshop possible, and all who assisted in making this workshop a huge success. We believe that this was a valuable learning experience for all who attended, which gave them lots of food for thought. Hopefully stronger action will be taken by research libraries in playing a role in terms of research data management. HELIG should play a stronger leadership role in the country, an expectation raised by many of the participants.”

E-mail feedback received:
- “Thanks to you and your colleagues for organising a great workshop.” - Jenny Wood (UCT)
- “Thanks for a great workshop.” - Debbie Becker (CPUT)
- “Well done, WCHELIG!” - Ujala Satgoor (Rhodes Univ. & LIASA President) - via facebook.

Cataloguing Workshop

On Wednesday 26th March, Trish Gierke of DUT Library and KZN’s LOY 2013 presented a cataloguing refresher & training day for ELITS cataloguers.

ELITS stands for Education Library and Information Technology Services, and is a division of the KZN Department of Education, serving school libraries. 15 cataloguers from ELITS’ central technical services department in Pietermaritzburg attended.

Besides a basic cataloguer refresher course, they also requested training and guidelines in cataloguing various non-book resources they are often required to process for the many school libraries they serve, e.g. TOYS, MAPS, PUZZLES, WALL CHARTS, POSTERS, DVDs, CD-ROMs.

Using practical everyday examples, Trish facilitated a series of very interactive training sessions that were appropriate to their setup which is neither web-based nor structured in MARC21. She also introduced the cataloguers to some of the features of the new cataloguing standard, RDA (Resource Description & Access).

Avishana Kushial
LIASA (KZN) PRO
On Monday, 27 January 2014, WCHELIG hosted a Webinar presented by Lynn Kleinveldt, a Faculty Librarian at CPUT Libraries on Library Orientation, where we are now, and where are we heading. Lynn introduced the topic and gave a brief overview of how academic libraries have adapted to the changing demands of tech-savvy users. The background into Library Orientation covered traditional library tours mainly taking place at the beginning of the year where a small percentage (about 5% of the number expected) of students are being exposed to the world of information overload. The shift from print to electronic resources and the revamping of library as space meant that the aspect of Library Orientation needed to be re-looked at in order to remain relevant.

Some of the Library Orientation trends presented on were: YouTube videos, Gaming, Virtual Tours, Podcasts, Digital Stories, Social Media and QR Codes. The webinar then continued with an open discussion with academic libraries in South Africa to share ideas and experiences on the traditional library orientation, whether it is still relevant and necessary. Some of the ways in which academic libraries in South Africa have adapted library orientation are highlighted as follows:

- Rhodes University Library: Has transformed the traditional orientation programme into an “Amazing Race” which is a competition that allows students to explore the library. The students receive information that guides them through the different sections of the library. Some of the prizes include tablets, external hard drives, kindles, and gift bags. The library also makes use of virtual tours. Rhodes Library has become the “social space” both online and physically. The library is also exploring Libguides and Gaming for orientation.
- Stellenbosch University Library: Are exploring using web 2.0 tools such as wikis and blogs making the library more visible online. Libraries should be accessible anytime, anywhere. They mentioned that where library orientation was phased out, no complaints were received from faculty. There should be “self-help” services.
- University of Pretoria: Conduct traditional and virtual (video) orientation. Have an Orientation Virtual Game. Exploring Libguides as well.
- University of Johannesburg: Conduct traditional orientation. Make use of Libguides and Facebook (where questions are posted with prizes attached) for library orientation.
- CPUT: Still conduct traditional Library orientation, but it has been shortened. Integrated Orientation into Information Literacy training.
- UKZN: At UKZN Howard College the library is exploring learning management systems
- UWC: Conduct traditional and virtual orientation. Exploring Prezi as well.
- UFS: Library orientation is integrated into information literacy training.
- TSIBA: A 15 minute introduction to the library by a library workshop with a hands-on component which includes a worksheet.

Recommendations and the way forward:
It was realised that traditional library orientation is still important. It was recommended that Library Orientation be integrated into Information Literacy Training, making it more hands-on.

A recommendation made for future webinar discussion is: “Tips for embedding IL into the curriculum”.

Overall it was a very good discussion and platform to learn about what academic libraries are doing with regards to orientation. We look forward to future webinars on academic library issues.

Lynn Kleinveldt
Librarian: Applied Sciences and Health & Wellness Sciences
CPUT: Cape Town Campus
My Journey as ‘Librarian of the Year 2012’

My year as “Librarian of the Year” started with very much excitement. I was invited by the Principal of Caravelle Primary to do an Afrikaans Awareness Campaign. This campaign took me back to my years in school when we used to dance together to such songs as “Waar is my Dina, my Dina” en “Wat maak Oom Kallie daar?” Learners were eager to learn the Afrikaans folk songs and they thoroughly enjoyed dancing to the music.

I was invited by the author, Cheryl Roberts to speak on Women and Work at the Newlands Cricket Stadium on the 1 May 2013, Workers Day. This author owns the publication ‘Sparkling Women’ and is a sports activist.

I was then invited to Central library to speak on my journey as “Librarian of the Year”. After my speech I was approached by people requesting that I speak at their functions thinking that I was a motivational speaker. I was interviewed by a radio personality on CCFM about my award and why I was awarded this prize. I was then invited to speak on Voice of the Cape. I had a fantastic time in the studio and learnt so much about studios and what went on behind the voices that we hear.

I spoke at graduations and women’s conferences. I was invited to Central Library, Cape Town Convention Centre in October ‘Journey as Librarian of the Year’ at the Conference and gave a presentation on my work and the National Library in Florence. Unfortunately, a major flood of the Arno River in 1966 damaged nearly one-third of the library’s holdings. I took a cruise on a Barchetto on the Arno River listening in awe to the historical truths of the tour guide. I walked bare feet in the rain through the streets of Florence in the Palazo Vecchio among the sculptures of Michelangelo.

I took the train from Firenze, Santa Maria to Rome where I spent seven days visiting different cathedrals, basilicas and historical sites. I visited the second largest library in Rome, named the ‘Biblioteca Angelica’ in the Piazza Sant’ Agostino. The library was established in 1604 by Angela Rocca. I frequented several breath-taking cathedrals, the Colosseum as well as the ruins in Rome. I finally flew to France where I stayed in Malakoff, a small town, 30 minutes out of Paris next to a public library. I visited the Eiffel Tower, Disneyland and the Louvre Museum that holds the Mona Lisa. My real reason for visiting the Louvre originated from the book written by Dan Brown: The Da Vinci Code. I boarded a train to Amsterdam where I stayed in Deventer, a charming town. I enrolled at the University of Utrecht where I studied ‘Foundations of Survey Research’ where I met students from all over the world. I explored the very impressive Amsterdam Central library in Amsterdam, the largest library in Europe.

Using a ferry to go to Athens, Greece, I visited the National library in Greece, their beautiful beaches, the city of Corinth, Patras, the Parthenon Temple in Athens and the magnificent Acropolis, called ‘The Sacred Rock’.

I slowly prepared myself for my journey home. I flew to Venice to wander through the narrow pathways on the Comune di Venezia and this city took me back to all the story book characters I encountered in my childhood. I gained invaluable experience about “best practices” in these countries.

I presented a research paper at the LIASA Conference and gave a presentation on my ‘Journey as Librarian of the Year’ at the Cape Town Convention Centre in October last year.

I want to thank UKS for sponsoring me. You gave me much more than money; you gave me an unforgettable experience.

Theresa Denton

Erna Mostert
(Principal Librarian, Education Library Chair, LiSLIG FS)
As National librarian of the year “2nd runner up” I want to give you a short update on my activities for the first two months of 2014:

I have adopted a preschool Day Care Centre for 2014. The name of the school is “Reya Hola Day Care”. It is a very small nursery school situated in Lourier Park in a “mokhukhu” at the back of the owner’s house.

They have 6 children who are going to school next year (5-6 years) and 24 children (2-4 years). The teacher, Ms Jeannie, is very talented but does not have the resources and educational equipment to develop the children.

I was very fortunate to get a sponsor “Children Book Forum FS” that immediately got involved and donated money to purchase colouring books, colour pens, scissors and Pritt. Exclusive Books is also willing to donate educational books to assist in the development of the children.

I draw up a practical list of their immediate needs and am also at present busy with a sponsor to assist with puzzles and educational toys.

The lack of a sign board at the entrance to their premises was also identified and a sponsor was contacted to get involved regarding the donation of a sign board.

Secondly, I am also going to visit Secondary Schools in Bloemfontein to promote the career of Librarianship. I am in the process of developing a presentation for this purpose. I will send photos as soon as I start with the program.

Central Library recently had the privilege of an inspiring visit from trendsetter and biker-ibrarian, as she is fondly referred to, Rina Jansen van Rensburg from the Fichardt Park Library in Bloemfontein. We were enthused to hear about some of the amazing and successful empowerment projects she has undertaken in her community. Rina was the runner-up LIASA National Librarian of the Year 2013. As part of her award, she elected to make a trip to a number of libraries in the Western Cape, and Central was happy to host her (and her bike) on her recent visit to the City of Cape Town. Here she is seen with Senior Librarian, Akeela Gaibie, at Central Library in Cape Town.

PACLIG Storytelling Workshop

PACLIG Western Cape decided to reach out to the regions outside of the Cape Town Metropol by offering a fun Storytelling Workshop in Drakenstein Municipality.

The workshop was presented in Paarl on a rainy day. We were very happy to see and meet the small but enthusiastic group of 30 participants which included public librarians as well as school librarians and teachers.

After registration and a general introduction, Lona Gericke opened the workshop by captivating the audience with fun picture books. Her passion for stories and children was evident. She explained the importance of selecting the correct picture book for the audience to whom it is to be read. She also spoke about the importance of breaking the ice with very small children, and how storytellers can use nursery rhymes and songs to capture the children’s attention. Those present felt like little children as they reacted to her storytelling. From her session it was apparent that the world of children involves much more fun than simply doing a day’s work.

Glorine Hannah presented the next session which covered how to tell stories to older children by including fun and interesting songs. She taught participants how to use different tools while storytelling, e.g. musical instruments or a hat, and how to use different tones of voice to represent different characters in the story.

After the workshop participants were able to ask questions and do some networking.

Thank you to our experienced storytellers and Drakenstein Municipality for their hospitality.

PACLIG WC would like to present this workshop in other regions. Interested parties are welcome to contact Rika at rika.odendaal@capetown.go.za

Rika Odendaal
Senior Librarian
PACLIG WC Chairperson

Rina Jansen van Rensburg

Akeela Gaibie
Autism: raising awareness

“Westonaria Library serves as a beacon of light in our community.” These were the words Councillor Alex Ntshiba once used to describe the service rendered by the library to the community. This was once again proved true when LIS Westonaria hosted an Autism awareness day on 5 April 2014 at The Main Library in Westonaria.

Author Christien Neser spoke about her book, Amper Einstein, and showed a video clip from the movie Dead Poets Society to demonstrate this neurological phenomenon to scholars and adults attending the programme. Reflecting on the events of the day Christien had the following to say: “I would like to boast with this man: Righardt le Roux. Where do you get the WAU ladies and the black youth of a town on a Saturday morning together under one roof as one big family? Attending this event made me proudly South African.”

“We really are operating as a big happy family and we are proud of the fact that we can come together as a complex, multi-ethnic group with the library constantly striving to create opportunities of any kind of upward mobility for our youth,” says Programme Librarian, Righardt le Roux.

Three shining examples in this regard is youth like Refiwe Tlali (chosen to represent South Africa in the USA for the PAN AFRICAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PLAN), Donald Maseko, interviewed by PRAESA (Programme for Alternative Education in South Africa) as a young male role model when it comes to creating a love for books amongst local youth and Christopher Themba, who has just been requested by Nal‘ibali to write a poem in celebration of its birthday.

Phindi Radebe, a regular attendee from the East Rand said “the library in Westonaria serves as a symbol for our modern, multicultural democracy – it is a library that works for its users helping people to change the way they think. Winners are created in this environment.”

“Trying to change the way people think comes with social transformation and this does not happen overnight but in Westonaria it is not all doom and gloom. The Library is constantly positioning itself so that people can see it as an institution working for them, helping them reaching their aspirations toward getting employment and a livelihood – a visiting resident from Randfontein was so inspired by Christopher’s poem that she has organized a poetry competition for the Westonaria Poetry Circle with a monetary prize. In this way youth can earn money from their creative writing. All of this is boosts links with organisations like UKS, PRAESA, ARMSA, Word & Sound, The US Embassy to South Africa, United Nations of the World (VLU), NB Publishers, various artists, authors and poets who are willing to give back to our communities and The New Political Forum.”

“For LIS Westonaria there is no grey area with regard to service delivery and that means keeping our users informed about the human mosaic making up our democracy,” said Righardt in closure.

Mother Tongue Awareness Day

It is not easy to bring about change in a place where, whatever its many challenges, the mood has a way of making things seem imperfect nearly every day of the year. An understandable lack of pessimism can set in, and it is up to us, the public servants to bring about positive transformations in this way showing we really care about the lives of the people we work to serve and that it is not just lip service.

As one of the IFLA core mission for librarians is to ensure cultural enrichment, LIS Westonaria decided to commemorate Mother Tongue Awareness Day at the old age home in Bekkersdal.

In order to succeed, you have to have partners and LIS Westonaria is grateful for organisations like the WAU, Philani Development Centre and youth from Seattle Primary School, Simunye Secondary School and TM Lethlake High School who partnered with us to host this very successful programme despite the sluice gates of heaven opening up.

The programme served once again to highlight on how LIS Westonaria promotes intercultural fluency and works to bring young and old together to celebrate the wonder of the spoken as well as the written word.

Deputy Minister for NGO’s in South Africa, Phyllis Malope, spoke about the importance of mother tongue as it forms part of our unique cultural heritage. She congratulated both Programme Librarian, Righardt le Roux, and educator Ms Albertina Mhlanga for their educational sensibility in a time marred by service delivery protests resulting in school strikes.

Central to the event of the day was the inter-school choir “Mapping the Soul’s Future” who entertained the almost 100 people receiving aid from the Bekkersdal old age home and other invited guests. As the aim was to create a bigger awareness of mother tongue and the various languages spoken in and around Westonaria, the group sang songs ranging from Afrikaans to Zulu.

Righardt le Roux, Programme Librarian, Westonaria Local Municipality

PACLIG membership competition

PACLIG National ran a competition from the end of February to 15 March 2014. Participants needed to write an article of not more than 250 words on the “Reason why you have not joined or renewed your LIASA membership.” I am proud to announce that the winner was Miss Sibongile Doncabe from Amanzimtoti Library, Ethekwini Municipal Libraries in KZN. PACLIG National will pay for a well deserving Sibo’s LIASA membership fee for 2014.

PACLIG competition winner, Sibo Doncabe, right, with National Chair, Avishana Kushial

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ON THE MOVE

The Board of the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) has appointed Professor Rocky MD Ralebipi-Simela as the National Librarian and CEO of the National Library of South Africa with effect from 1 May 2014. Prof Ralebipi-Simela holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh and a PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of Minnesota in the USA. Her career spans more than 30 years as follows: She spent 23 years in the Higher Education sector in South Africa and the USA, and 10 years in the American Corporate sector as an Information Management specialist. She has served the Higher Education sector in many capacities as Campus Librarian and Professor of Library and Information Science at the University of South Africa (UNISA). She served as Regional Director of the Limpopo region of the University of South Africa (UNISA). She has published books, book chapters and journal articles in the Library and Information Science field, and is recognised nationally and internationally for her leadership role in the profession. She served and continues to serve on many national and international councils, committees and boards, including the National Council on Library and Information Services (NCLIS) as Chairperson; National Heritage Council (NHC) as Deputy Chairperson; National Skills Authority (NSA) where she represents Higher Education South Africa (HESA); Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC); American Library Association and the Medical Library Association. She is a Fulbright Scholar, a Hubert Humphrey Policy Fellow, a Minnesota Lawyers for Human Rights Award recipient, the CSIR Advanced Leadership Award of Outstanding Merit holder and American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow.

Vanessa Reddy, (Secretary), (PRO) and Mosimege and the Executive Dean College of Humanities, Management and Development at Stellenbosch University where she was also employed in later years serving in various divisions of the Library. Her most recent role was in leading research support and communication. In her new position at Elsevier she is responsible for training and support to ensure optimisation of research intelligence solutions such as Scopus, SciVal and Pure.

IN MEMORIAM

John Morrison, former Manager of Msunduzi Municipal library Services and a Member of the Legal Deposit Committee, passed away on 7 May 2014. A determined and committed marathon runner, John's race against a terminal illness has finally ended. John has had a 25 year association with the main library situated in Church Street, Pietermaritzburg. He oversaw the transition of the former Natal Society Library, the only privately run public library in the country to being a municipal managed entity in 2004. This included its redesign and refurbishment to the current Bessie Head Municipal Library, which was facilitated by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. He will be remembered for his dynamism, sense of humour and commitment to a democratic South Africa.

HONOURS, CITATIONS, PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Three KZN BEC members have graduated with PGDIS from UKZN. Congratulations to Vanessa Reddy (Secretary), Avishana Kushial (PRO) and Yvonne Naidoo (Membership Secretary).

Prof Omwoyo Bosire Onyancha (RETIG National Convenor) was inaugurated as Full Professor at the University of South Africa after a brilliant lecture on a topic entitled “Can Informetrics shape biomedical research? A case study of HIV/AIDS research in Sub-Saharan Africa”. In his lecture, he recognised the role and importance of research, discussed the concept, scope and role of informetrics, particularly to those who are not familiar with its meaning and scope to understand where Prof Onyancha is coming from and why informetrics would be important in biomedical research, particularly in biomedical research. He further discussed the application of informetrics in biomedical/HIV/AIDS research, reflecting on his work on this topic for almost a decade. This part of the lecture would be understood better by remembering or considering the pain and suffering caused by common diseases in Africa such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and rapidly spreading diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancer, whose devastating effects are widely known. He concluded with a conviction that informetrics can shape biomedical research by, among other things: Enabling health research policy and decisions (e.g. accountability, funding, prediction); Providing alternative methodology for supporting/triangulating clinical research; Describing and evaluating biomedical research activities and output; Enabling the development of new biomedical research technologies; Showing the regional distinction of HIV/AIDS manifestation where poverty, ignorance/illiteracy, and retrogressive cultural practices play a significant role in Africa. Professor Dennis Ngong Ochollot (University of Zululand), who supervised his PhD work, was his respondent at the lecture that was officiated by UNISA Registrar, Prof. M. Mosimege and the Executive Dean College of Human Sciences, Prof. R.M.H. Moeketsi. Among the dignitaries was the Kenyan High Commissioner in South Africa, Ambassador P.S. Wamoto.

Fatima Darries has joined Elsevier as the Customer Consultant for Research Intelligence in Africa after having previously worked as a librarian for two decades. She holds a BBibl. degree from Stellenbosch University where she was also employed in later years serving in various divisions of the Library. Her most recent role was in leading research support and communication. In her new position at Elsevier she is responsible for training and support to ensure optimisation of research intelligence solutions such as Scopus, SciVal and Pure.

Lucia Schoomboe has joined Elsevier as the Customer Consultant for Research Intelligence in Africa after having previously worked as a librarian for two decades. She holds a BBibl. degree from Stellenbosch University where she was also employed in later years serving in various divisions of the Library. Her most recent role was in leading research support and communication. In her new position at Elsevier she is responsible for training and support to ensure optimisation of research intelligence solutions such as Scopus, SciVal and Pure.

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Paul Meyer, of InfoSolve Africa. Paul spent 16 years as a librarian working in national, academic and public libraries, starting as a cataloguer and ending as a chief information librarian. He then moved into the world of library IT, conceptualizing all types of libraries, including national libraries, provincial library services, academic libraries, public libraries and school libraries.

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John Tsebe retires

Like any other summer’s day, it was bright and warm in Pretoria on 18 February 2014. The day was like any ordinary day for the entire staff of the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), except for one person. For the National Librarian and Chief Executive Officer, Mr John Kgware Tsebe, it was a very special day when he had to bid goodbye to his colleagues in the library fraternity. The auditorium of the NLSA Pretoria campus was packed to capacity with colleagues, friends, family and stakeholders who could not hide the pride of their association with Mr Tsebe, or John, as he is affectionately known to everyone. Amongst the praises piled on John were those from the NLSA chairperson of the Board, Ms Ellen Tise; chairperson of the previous NLSA Board, Prof. Muke Nkondo; DAC’s Mr Puleng Kekana; NCLIS Mr Tommy Matthee; chairperson of the Committee of Higher Education Librarians of South Africa (CHELSA), Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata; South African Book Development Council’s Ms Elitha van der Sandt; CEO Forum’s Mr Magkolo Magkolo; LIASA’s Mr Mandla Ntombela and Ms Rachel More, Deputy National Librarian. The event also featured the sizzling poets Natalia Molebatsi, Portia Sindane and Lucas Mmalfelo.

Cape Town staff and special guests also had the opportunity to say goodbye to John at a lunch held at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town on 21 February. Warm congratulatory and farewell messages came from Ms Ellen Tise, who spoke on behalf of the NLSA Board and Ms Tanya Barben, on behalf of the Friends of the NLSA. Ms Najwa Hendrieks, on behalf of management, and Mr Leonard Benjamin, on behalf of staff, spoke with great fondness of their years of working with John. A delightful video produced by Ms Sue-Adrie Jeftahas had the audience glued to the television screen. Ms Nelisa Lunika composed and presented an ode to John Tsebe, to much applause. The Cape Town NLSA staff choir impressed everybody with their beautiful voices. The Buyelekhaya Community Group’s vigorous traditional dancing provided further entertainment. Mr Mandla Matyumza’s vote of thanks was the perfect conclusion to an event that will long be remembered. So too will the delicious cakes baked by staff members!

John was appointed as National Librarian of the NLSA in March 2004, and over the past ten years contributed immensely to the many achievements and accomplishments of the NLSA. Of note, the new building which houses the state of the art Pretoria campus, the introduction of numerous new services including free Internet access to the public, the digitisation of the library’s invaluable collections and those of other institutions, the de-acidification plant, the only one of its kind in Africa, and many highly successful projects in collaboration with the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) under the conditional grant for provincial public libraries.

John’s departure from the NLSA was greeted with mixed feelings, as a time to reflect back with pride on his immense contributions to the library sector, both nationally and internationally, and sadness as his leadership skills, guidance and presence will be missed. He will now have enough time for leisure and his family.

To view SABC TV Morning Live interview with Mr John Tsebe conducted on 19 January 2014 please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwSh7AC6YXo.

Anita Shaw and Muponishe Nkuna

Top Award for Senior Librarian

I was overjoyed when I received an invitation to attend the annual Cultural awards Ceremony but more so when I learnt that I will be receiving a Ministerial Award for ‘Outstanding Achievement of Women in Cultural Affairs’. Rocklands Library has received numerous awards but it’s always a pleasant surprise when I am being singled out.

This Awards ceremony acknowledges individuals and organisations in the fields of language, arts and culture, heritage, museums, geographic names, libraries and archives.

Councillor Eddie Andrews, for Ward 78 and chairperson of Wolfgat Subcouncil, congratulated me with these words: “As Sub-council 12 we are proud of her award but more importantly her contribution to sustain interventions and promoting of healthy alternatives in our community”.

During my 16 year tenure at Rocklands library, the library has won Most Community Involved library in 2009; Best Children’s Services in 2010; Best Youth Services in 2011 and Best Public Library in 2012.

Theresa Denton

Richardde le Roux gets Outstanding Public Award

Richarde le Roux, a 40 something librarian who has worked in Westonaria Library for the past six years, was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award by the Gauteng Premier, Honourable Nomvula Mokonyane.

Towards the end of 2013 he was nominated for this prestigious award by the Department of Sport Recreation Arts and Culture. In accepting the Award, Richardde had the following to say in appreciation of the acknowledgement awarded to him but also in encouragement of other public officials to do their best.

“Having grown up in a family with a lot of self-esteem that has definitely rubbed off on me, I set high standards for myself. Luckily I also have many people who believe in me, who are not consumed by their history and past negative experiences, but who think about the future.”

Richardde further says that this is not to say that our history is hogwash; just that it is important not to be consumed by our history and past negative experiences, but who think about the future.”

“I love the diversity of South Africa. Success is when preparation meets opportunity. This is what the Honorable Premier is giving to the people of our great Province; every public official has the opportunity to achieve this. It is up to you. The nomination was only made possible because of a network of good friends, organizations like UKS and supervisors like Esmé Kuipers and Tokky Morolo who believe in my crazy ideas when it comes to marketing and benchmarking LIS Westonaria as “going beyond access”.

It is like the father of our democratic nation, Nelson Mandela, who once said: “it is not about black empowerment, it is not about white empowerment, it is also about people empowerment.” When we get along, we realise that we are all in this together and that it is about not just what is good for us as a community, or a province but as a nation. Our dream at Westonaria LIS is to educate and empower as many people as possible; to help our youth take charge of their lives and start adding value to our community.

I was very surprised by the nomination itself, more so when I was short listed and sitting there the evening of the awards I knew that even in the end I don’t make it; my little voice will have added something. You have to be very strong to be able to reach self-actualization, you can’t be weak; you have to step up. It is about making the most of the 24 hours you have every day. The message I would like to share is: If you want to invest in South Africa, invest in yourself. Believe in the history we, me and you, make today!”

A worthy winner indeed!

Kagbane Madiiehe
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