



## **KZN LIASA BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2015 (AGM)**

**Period: 31 August 2014 – July 2015**

**Prepared by SN Radebe: Chairperson**

### **Introduction**

It gives me great pleasure to present the KZN LIASA Branch Report that cover the activities dating from the last branch AGM that was held on 31 August 2014 at Ethekwini Art Gallery. The report highlights the AGM election results, guest speaker, challenges and achievements of the branch for the period of review.

The following BEC members were elected at the AGM: Siza Radebe (Chairperson), Avishana Kushial (Chair-elect), Vanessa Reddy (Secretary), Shireen Deoraj (Treasurer), Mzothule Ndlela (PRO), Yvonne Naidoo (Additional Member – Membership), Nonhlanhla Ngcobo (Additional Member – Social Media), Agatha Radebe (Additional Member – Adhoc Convenor HELIG), Judge Khoza (Convenor – IGBIS), Musa Radebe (Convenor – PACLIC), Ntobeko Sikhakhane (Convenor – LISLIG) and Thanda Khumalo (Adhoc Convenor – SLYSLIG). The guest speaker was Ms LW Webster, Director: Library Services at DUT and Immediate past Chairperson: NCLIS and her presentation was on the 'Implications of the Transformation Charter to the Library and Information Service sector'.

### **Status of the branch**

The committee took over a relatively health branch with a bank balance of R17 977.00. Part of the money came from the proceeds from the National LIASA Conference 2013. The branch has 3 fully fledged interest groups with elected office bearers, that is IGBIS, PACLIC and LISLIG. HELIG and SLYSLIG are coordinated by the adhoc convenors until AGM's with elections take place. The AGM is scheduled to take place in the July 2015 AGM. Developments are also at the advanced stage to set up the ICTIG for the branch and this will see the number of IGs increasing to six.

The BEC lost the longest serving office bearer in January 2015, Avishana Kushial left EML to take a new appointment at UKS. She could not continue serve as a LIASA office bearer as this could be perceived as the clash of interest. The branch put up a CALL for Nomination via LISTSERV, 2 nominations were received, ie Nonhlanhla Ngcobo Manager: Library Information Service at UKZN and Shirlene Neerputs Manager: Academic Services at DUT. The LIASA Electoral Officer coordinated the online ballot. Election results were announced on 12 June 2015 at the branch seminar, Nonhlanhla Ngcobo won the elections and is now the branch Chair-elect 2015 – 2016 and Chairperson 2016 – 2018.

Membership is 5 institutions and 173 paid-up members. There are 40 unresolved membership subscription that the membership secretary has been tasked to sort it out with the national office. If these subscription could all be resolved the branch will meet and exceed the 201 target.

### Programme of the branch

The branch executive committee scheduled the strategic planning meeting on 30 January 2015 to embark on the review of the LIASA strategic plan with an effort to cascade and align the national operation plan to the branch action plan:

This was broken down around the 5 themes:

- Membership strategy: the branch aimed at increasing its membership from 166 to more than 201 – a target set by the national office. This was going to be achieved by putting together attractive programmes for the IG and make LIASA visible in LIS
- Fundraising: This was mainly through registration for the workshops and seminars organized by the IGs and branch
- Public relations: creating space for information dissemination by using various platforms, eg LISTSERV, Facebook page and Twitter page
- Good governance: Strengthening the IGs and complying with the national guidelines and deadlines
- Leadership development: Capacity building of office bearers at all levels
- Workshops, seminar, events and training:

Branch or IG	Date	Venue	Topic	Guest speaker/facilitator
Branch	04 December 2014	Muhle Museum and EML building site	End of the Year Party	-
Branch	16 March 2015	Tongaat Civic Hall	SALW Launch	Ms Carol Slator
HELIG	02 June 2015	Emakhosini Hotel	Information Literacy workshop	Shirlene Neerputs Romeo Matumaba Margaret Bass Ini Smith
Branch	12 June 2015	Branch seminar	Library for development: Action, integration and collaboration	Speakers from all sections of the LIS sector in KZN
PACLIC	End of July		Motivation Talk	
LISLIG	End of July		Leadership styles	
IGBIS	End of July	UNIZUL	RDA	Trish Gierke
LOY/PACLIC	29 July 2015		Library Promotion	

## Challenges

- Stagnant membership growth with 40 unresolved subscriptions. The branch target of 201 members would be achieved in case the unresolved subscription can be addressed
- KZN geographical landscape and difficulty in reaching out and recruiting from southern and northern areas of the province
- Expectation from LIS workers in the schools sector – The department stopped paying for membership subscription for the professional staff and staff resistance to carry the membership subscription cost
- Attitude from some of the middle level managers to release staff to attend the LIASA activities

## Way forward

- Branch profile; number of public, academic, school, special and community libraries and number of professional and non-professional staff
- Strengthened IG base that is reflective of the KZN LIS landscape, especially HELIG, PACLIC, SLYSLIG, ICTLIG, LISLIG and IGBIS
- Needs analysis survey for the different categories of staff in various IG
- CPD aligned programmes for all the existing IGs in the branch

## Conclusion

On behalf of the BEC, I would like to congratulate the following branch members: Shireen Deoraj for winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> runners up Librarian of the Year Award, Mandla Ntombela for his nomination to be the Chairperson of the Public & Community Libraries Section of IFLA Africa and this qualifies him to serve on the IFLA Governing Council 2015 - 2017, Public Libraries 2015 – 2018, Tebogo Mzizi for being nominated to serve in NCLIS 2015 – 2017 . We also wish to extend our congratulations to our members that got appointed to senior positions and those that have presented in a number of international conferences, eg IATUL and those that will be presenting papers at IFLA.

Finally I wish to thank the KZN BEC members and LIASA members for their support, commitment, hard work and team spirit during this period under review. We also extend our gratitude to the Library managers and Directors who have made their staff and facilities to be available for the various branch activities. Without them it would be indeed difficult to continue in our portfolios and render services to our members:

Name : SN Radete

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 17 July 2015