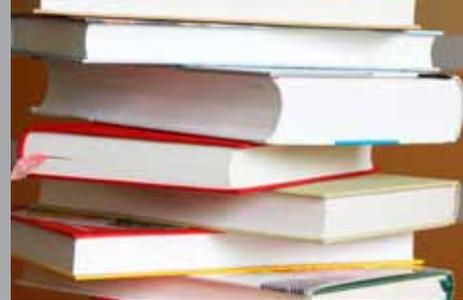


Discover

WSU Library Newsletter



VOL I Issue I

WSU LIBRARIES KEEPING IN TOUCH

JULY 2010



Wethu Danster

Director: Library and Information Services (LIS)

Welcome to the first issue of the WSU library newsletter: "Discover" Vol1 Issue 1 of 2010. This seemed like the opportune time to launch our newsletter. As Director, it has been exciting to see the positive changes taking place within the LIS division. On the contrary it has been my concern that there is no formally established communication tool between the LIS and the rest of WSU communities. Through this publication we intend to get the word out about the Library, our resources, services and wonderful staff.

Discover will be published twice a year during the months of June and December. Forthcoming issues of this newsletter will spotlight both new and existing electronic resources, include a calendar of

upcoming training events, highlight progress on LIS special projects and staff accomplishments, address relevant issues and most importantly provide a means to communicate with you, our patrons. Discover it all from your library newsletter.

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WSU LIS Staff Planning Sessions

For the past two years (2008 & 2009) since the inception of the LIS strategic Plan, the unit has introduced a culture of planning by reflecting on the passing year and plan for the year ahead by reviewing the strategic plan document. These planning sessions have afforded the Unit an opportunity to highlight the achievements and challenges during the year under review, and devise strategies to carry forward those activities that could not be accomplished to the following year. In this regard the Unit held a three day workshop at the Mpekweni Conference Centre from the 6 to 9 December 2009. During this session the Unit also shared light on the forthcoming 2011 Institutional Audit and report writing. Although the workshop did not focus on the

planning for 2010 as previously planned, the unit successively sifted through the 2009 annual operating plans and drew up a document entitled "LIS priorities for 2010". The latter reflects on those plans that could not be accomplished in 2009 and incorporates them with plans for 2010. For more details on the LIS Indaba 2009 refer to the LIS Special Issue.



LIS Staff members at Mpekweni Conference Centre during the LIS Indaba 2009



Felix Ubogu

Executive Director: Wits University Library



Library staff arriving at Mpekweni conference Centre for the LIS Indaba 2009



A developmental university...
• technological • scientific • innovative • responsive

Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) Project

This is a joint venture between the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Council of Higher Education Libraries of South Africa (CHELSA). Through this project Higher education libraries in South Africa and the NRF are joining a World of Open Access initiative that aims at making available and accessible the intellectual research output of universities at no cost to the public. WSU LIS is proud to be an active participant in this endeavor as we strongly believe that WSU can make

a meaningful contribution to research and development in academia. However there has been remarkably slow progress in this area through out 2009 despite the approval of this project by WSU Senate. This slow or lack of progress could be attributed to lack of an effective interface between the LIS projects, activities and WSU faculties. Nevertheless the LIS has targeted to finalize and implement the outcomes of this project in 2010. Good news is that the NRF has re

assured WSU of support in this regard. A task team led by the Director of Research and Development (Professor Ekosse) is spearheading this project for WSU.



WSU LIS will co-host a workshop on ETDs with NRF & RHODES on 27-28th July 2010 at the WSU Mthatha Campus

South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Project

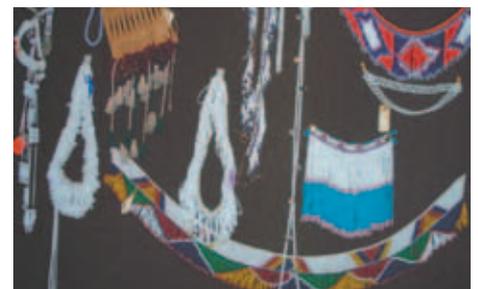


Africana & Special Collections Librarian - Mrs Mazvita Lusu presents WSU with treasures from the past

Another interesting collaboration between WSU and SAHRA has been realized through the WSU rare collections, the Joan Broster, Professor Lamla and other related collections that are currently housed at the Africana and Special Collections Division of the Sasol Library. A lot of activities have taken place in this regard. In 2009 SAHRA afforded WSU the services of a conservator to work with the librarians at the Africana and Special collections library in the assessment audit of the Joan Broster collection. Subsequent to this exercise, which

lasted for about two weeks, SAHRA confirmed to WSU that this collection meets the requirements of being added to the national register of Heritage resources in South Africa because of the value attached to it. SAHRA incurred all the costs of involving the specialist and will continue to shoulder the costs of training WSU staff and students who are involved in this project. The MDA Architects who represented the Director Facilities at the meeting of the 19 March 2010 between SAHRA and WSU presented the WSU development Master plan. This indicated possible development areas within the University to homogenize the University landscape. This presented other options to relocating the WSU Special Collections to an improved building.

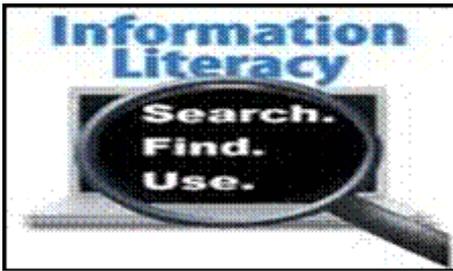
In view of the above, it was seen to be cost effective not to alter the Basta Building as was proposed initially, but rather opt to relocate to the new building that would be purpose-built (the structure was estimated to be completed within a year's time).



Some of the Joan Broster Beadwork Collection on Display



The Information Literacy Project



This is one of the flagship projects of the LIS. Information literacy is a prerequisite for lifelong learning and is common to all disciplines, to all learning environments, and to all levels of education. It enables learners to engage critically with content and extend their investigations, become more self directed, and assume greater control over their own learning. Because it is a cross – cutting skill for all learners, the next desired outcome is that Senate declares

Information Literacy as one of the graduate attributes in line with the WSU mission statement:

“To provide an educationally vibrant and enabling environment conducive to the advancement of quality academic, moral, cultural and technological learner-centred education for intellectual empowerment, growth and effective use of information”

In this regard the University wide Information Literacy Forum chaired by the Academic Planner (Dr Matoti) has been established. The first responsibility of the Forum was to review the documents prepared by the LIS Task Team on Information

Literacy. These included but were not limited to, the Information Literacy Founding document, Unit standards, Core curriculum, Information Literacy Strategy 2010 – 2014 and training approaches as suggested by the Council for Higher Education Libraries in South Africa (CHELSA). The concept documents have been approved by the Senate Library and Information Services (LISC) and Academic Planning and Examinations Committees (APEC). The next statutory bodies to embrace this program will be the University Senex and Senate. It is hoped that the module will be approved by the next Senate Committee meeting of 19 May 2010.

Professor Mafeje Collection Project

The Africana and Special collections division is a custodian of a vast range of special collections that are of significant importance to research specifically in the Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS).

The Professor Mafeje collection of Africana has attracted the likes of the CEO of the Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA). On the 19th February 2010 WSU LIS had a courtesy visit by the CEO of AISA Dr Matlou and his deputy Dr Makgetlaneng. This delegation had a vested interest in the Professor Mafeje collection that is housed at the Africana & Special Collections library.

This visit by the AISA delegation marked the beginning of the working relationship between

AISA and WSU libraries. Professor Archie Mafeje's life and long list of work speaks for itself and highlights the enormous impact he had on academia during his life time. The climax of the discussions between AISA/WSU LIS was an agreement to officially hold a launch in April 2011.

The challenge in most of these special collections projects is the unavailability of a suitable storage space with controlled climatic environments to house the special collections. The LIS and facilities directorates are looking at the possible strategies to address this challenge. The LIS is indebted to Professor Goduka for her involvement and contribution in this project.

The late Professor Mafeje was awarded an Honorary Doctorate (posthumus) at the 2010 graduation ceremony at WSU. The LIS will be receiving the citations of the works of Professor Mafeje from the Registrar's division in due course.

AISA and WSU will officially launch the Professor Mafeje Collection in March/ April 2011



The late Professor Archie Mafeje's life and long list of works speaks for itself and highlights the enormous impact he had on academia during his life time

Endnote Software

In 2010 the LIS acquired the Endnote software. EndNote is a software application for storing, managing and searching your references. Its main functions are:

1. Database manager: stores, manages and searches for your references.
2. Bibliography maker: builds lists of references cited in a paper and at the click of a button will create the bibliography in a number of different styles.
3. Data importer: enables the importing of references from other databases into an EndNote library.

EndNote will be useful to students who are required to use many references in their essays, reports, theses, etc. It can save you a great deal of time and frustration by helping you to organize the information that you access and refer to while studying.



The LIS and ICT services are in the process of installing and making available this resource to all WSU communities. Training sessions will be advertised and booked on e-mail.

LIBQUAL (for measuring quality in academic Libraries)

LibQUAL is another major technological breakthrough in the measurement of quality in higher education libraries worldwide. This is one of the instruments in the New Measures toolkit, a Web-delivered survey that measures the quality of library service delivery across the spectrum of higher education constituencies. LibQUAL+™ moves assessment from the local arena to inter-institutional assessment across peer institutions, and as such serves as the first total market survey (cf. Berry, 1995, pp. 37-9) for service quality in the library profession. Libqual has been put to practice by some higher education libraries in South Africa such as Fort Hare, Rhodes, UCT, Wits, just to mention the few. This software will be fully implemented and utilized as from the beginning of second semester at WSU.



This newsletter was compiled by: Kanyisa Nyingwa and Bulie Gxwem - Secretariat to the Director of Library & Information Services, WSU.

Masibulele Library Project & the Millennium Access

This project came to fruition in March 2010 with the delivery of facilities like library furniture, cabling for the internet laboratory, access to the Millennium library System and so forth. Although there are still limited book collections and a lack of journal collections, the acquisition of these resources has been catered for in the 2010 budget and will be dealt with operationally.

Millennium traffic is now prioritised between Ibika and Grey Street to enable speedy access to Masibulele Library.



"We have settled well at Masibulele. There are hiccups here and there that always come with any new project" said the proud Queensown Campus Librarian Mrs Bulie Chitha

Extension Numbers for WSU Libraries:

SASOL - 2318
MEDICAL LIBRARY - 2323
AFRICANA - 2319
IBIKA - 6388
MASIBULELE & QTOWN - 6809
ZAMUKULUNGISA - 1432/3
POTSDAM - 5245
COLLEGE STREET - 9255
CHISELHURST - 4026
CAMBRIDGE STREET - 4828

