



NEWSLETTER
AFRICA SECTION

N° 39 June 2011

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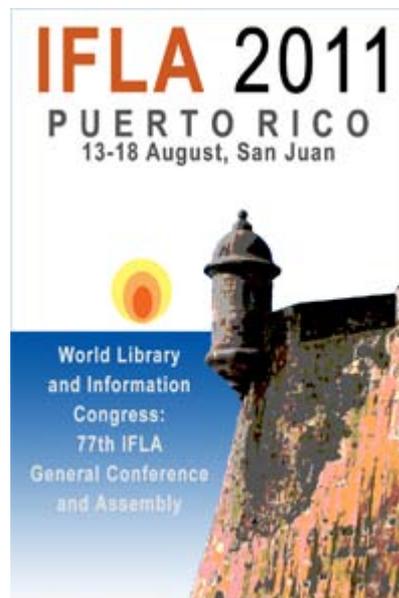
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World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly. 13 – 18 August 2011

Theme *Libraries Beyond Libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for All*

Finally 2011 WLIC has arrived and all LIS community will converge in San Juan, Puerto Rico. For the latest information and programme go to:

<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77>

Glasgow
Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 141 331 0123
Fax: +44 141 331 0234
Email: ifla2011sales@congrex.com
www.ifla.org

Africa Section chose for its WLIC 2011 theme ***"Africa libraries, not just place but interface"*** The African LIS community will engage on this theme at an open session number 183 with four presentations.

In addition, the Section in partnership with the University of West Indies Library will hold a satellite meeting with a theme

"Building cross-cultural capacities in library and information science: African and Caribbean reflections" and the venue is Blue Horizon Hotel, Bridgetown, Barbados, 9-10 August 2011

The Section will be presenting a poster, please visit the poster number 152 entitled ***Libraries beyond libraries in Africa***

Special Interest Group

The African LIS Community is also encouraged to support special interest group hosted by the Section:

LIS Education in Developing Countries, Special Interest Group (SIG) Chose its theme: ***"Library and Information Science Education in Latin America and the Caribbean: Opportunities and Challenges"***

Access to Information Network – Africa (ATINA) SIG, with a theme ***"Access to information: the Afro-Caribbean connection"*** Session 141

Africa Section will also participate in the following:

Division V Leadership Forum
Caucus: Africa, Asia & Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean
SC I & II Africa Section
You are encouraged to attend in support of Africa Section and Division V.

Time permitting, African LIS is encouraged to support sections of Divisions V, Asia & Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean on which Africa Region/Section reside

Barbados, Puerto Rico here we come!



Lindy Nhlapo, Regional Manager for Africa

Yesterday we bade farewell to 2010 and I can't believe that on the same breath, 2011 is almost gone. I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you and congratulations to the continent for your active participation in African LIS events.

I was very grateful when all of you converge to South Africa to grace the African Library Summit, which most of you agree that it was a success.

The Regional Office is also appreciates the royal treatment received while in Cameroon for the midterm meeting and the MDG seminar for Francophone Africa. It was good to see the commitment and involvement of Parliamentarians in the library and information services affairs.

Cameroon was also buzzing with BSLA and the commitment to the programme was amazing.

August with the WLIC 2011, the Regional Office in partnership with the West Indies University will be hosting a pre-conference/satellite meeting in Barbados and we hope you will be able to grace the occasion.

From Barbados we will proceed to Puerto Rico where Africa Section will have an Open Forum Session with the theme ***"Africa libraries, not just place but interface"***.

On the pipeline is the upcoming ICADLA-2 conference in November where I am in the steering committee. ICADLA-1 was hosted by UNECA, Ethiopia in 2009.

Emanating from the African Library Summit in May, South Africa a team was composed to explore a possibility of having an African federation forum. It is envisaged that the ground work will start in November/December 2011.

ALP Project Proposals

The Regional Offices continue to be the coordinator for all ALP projects in Africa. The Regional Offices will continue to provide guidance on guidelines and timelines to applicants, and assist them to submit their applications to ALP.

Lindy Nhlapo
South Africa

REGIONAL OFFICE NEWS

AFRICA SECTION STANDING COMMITTEE MID-TERM MEETING~ NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, YAOUNDE, CAMEROON, 7-9 FEBRUARY, 2011



The Africa Section Mid-Term meeting was held in Yaoundé, Cameroun from 7-9 February, 2011. The Section had the privilege of having the IFLA President, Ellen Tise at the meeting. The Opening Ceremony had in attendance the Speaker of Parliament, other senior officials of the Cameroun National Assembly; IFLA President, members of the

National Library Association (ABADCAM) and members of the Africa Section Standing Committee who graced the occasion.

Highlights of the agenda:

- ~ development of the Section, especially on how the Section can contribute to the promotion of IFLA.
- ~ election of new Standing Committee members and other IFLA posts
- ~ Africa Section Satellite meeting in Barbados, August 2011
- ~ Africa Section Open Forum programme at IFLA WLIC 2011, San Juan
- ~ ALP/BSLA Projects
- ~ Africa Library Summit in South Africa which was going to be hosted
- ~ UNESCO City of Literature and
- ~ IFLA Strategic Plan.

The Chairman of ATINA SIG gave a report on the activities and plans of ATINA. There was also a presentation on African Parliaments Knowledge Network (APKN) by Cecilia Matanga, Kenya.

At the end of the meeting, on the 9th February, 2011, IFLA President and SC members visited The University of Yaoundé, Catholic University, and the National Assembly Library.

IFLA President had an interactive session about the activities of IFLA with students and academics at the School of Communication, University of Yaoundé.

After the midterm Meeting, Africa Section also facilitated the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Seminar for librarians in Francophone speaking Africa from 9-11 February, 2011.

Participants of the MDG Seminar were treated to dinner by the host, Alim Garga and other members of ABADCAM sponsored by several officials of the National Assembly.

Participants also got a treat at a gala night, with cultural displays and exquisite cuisines sponsored by the Speaker of the National Assembly of Cameroun. It was unarguably one of the best organized meetings of the Section.

The Africa Section expresses sincere appreciation to the IFLA President, the Speaker and staff of the National Assembly of Cameroun, Alim Garga and ABADCAM members and all Standing Committee members for making the Mid-Term meeting and the MDG Seminar a huge success.

Victoria Okojie
Secretary, Africa Section

We Remember, Jaffrey Musisi

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Mr. Jaffrey Musisi last Thursday. He was one of the very senior Librarians and LIS leaders from East Africa. Jaffrey is remembered for having led the campaign that resulted into the Kenya Library Association hosting the IFLA conference in 1984 in Nairobi. This was the first time that this conference was ever hosted on African soil. He will be remembered as a good mobiliser, a skilled negotiator and a mentor to many LIS leaders in the region. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Charles Batambuze
Uganda

RE-APPOINTMENT OF JENNEFER NICHOLSON AS SECRETARY GENERAL

On behalf of the IFLA Governing Board I am very pleased to announce that Jennefer Nicholson has been re-appointed as IFLA Secretary General as from 1 June 2011 until August 2014.

With kind regards

Ellen Tise
IFLA President 2009-2011

Dear Colleagues

Will you be blogging about this year's upcoming World Library and Information Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico? Or are you already?

If so, we would like to add your blog to a list of blogs dedicated to, or with posts about the San Juan Congress on our special 'Follow the conference as it happens' (IFLA Express) website: <http://2011.ifla.org>

Become an IFLA blogger by:

1. tagging your posts wlic2011 so we can add them to our Activity Stream 2. and officially registering your blog. Just send a note, with your name and blog's URL, to: webmaster@ifla.org

See you in San Juan!

IFLA Web team PEOPLE ON THE GO

Source: <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/ifla-presidential-newsletter-no-7-july-2011>

The highlight of the President's Newsletter is the farewell to a colleague, Sjoerd Koopman who retires end July. For more details follow the link

CONVENING NOTICE FOR THE IFLA 2011 GENERAL ASSEMBLY at the World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 17 & 18 August 2011, San Juan, Puerto Rico

The IFLA Governing Board has pleasure in submitting the Convening Notice for the General Assembly meeting of the Federation. It can be found on

<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/news/convening-notice-for-the-ifla-general-assembly-meeting-in-san-juan>

The IFLA 2011 General Assembly will be held on Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 August, 2011 in Grand Salon A of the Puerto Rico Convention Center (PRCC), 100 Convention Boulevard, San Juan, PR 00907.

The Convening notice has been sent by regular mail on 17 June 2011 to all IFLA Voting Members.

Jennefer Nicholson
Secretary General

Election of Chair of IFLA's Professional Committee 2011-2013 and Chairs of IFLA's Divisions 2011-2013

After the nomination period ended, and after elections by postal ballot were held in various Divisions we now have a complete result of all duly nominated and elected candidates. The following colleagues are the post holders for the upcoming term (August) 2011-2013:

PC Chair: Anne Okerson, currently Chair of Division 2

Division 1: Lynne Rudasill, currently Chair of the Social Science Libraries Section

Division 2: vacancy

Division 3: Tone Moseid, currently Chair of the Library Services to People with Special Needs Section

Division 4: Anna-Maria Tamaro, currently Chair of the Education and Training Section

Division 5: Felipe González, currently Chair of the Latin America and Caribbean Section

On your behalf I would like to congratulate these colleagues and welcome them on IFLA's Professional Committee and Governing Board 2011-2013.

Jennefer Nicholson
Secretary General

African Parliamentary Knowledge Network (APKN)

During the Africa Section Midterm in February, Cameroon, we had a pleasure of a presentation on APKN. The APKN Portal hosts a huge knowledge base on

parliaments in Africa. It has been developed to facilitate the implementation of the APKN initiatives and activities through sharing information and experiences, building capacity and developing common services. The portal itself allows for the sharing and exchange of information on parliamentary profiles, contact and website directories as well as online resources submitted to the portal by each member parliament.

It also provides tools and spaces for learning (through development of dossiers, best practices and e-learning on issues and themes identified by the APKN), sharing libraries based on a federated library approach, news monitoring and online sharing of digital repositories

The role of member libraries in the context of the APKN Portal is very huge and demands that librarians have the required skills to contribute to as well as use the tools and resources available on the portal. Of special mention here is the APKN Libraries, a tool that provides a federated library based on an open source management system, Koha. The APKN Libraries is a collaboratively built, jointly owned, centrally managed collection of library resources of Parliaments of Africa allowing access to the Library Catalogues of the different member parliaments over Africa. Searches for material can be done in a specific library or in all available libraries. Another tool worth of mention is the APKN new monitor, a tool that allows for the gathering of news on African Parliaments from online news source around the world allowing parliaments to monitor their influence on policy. These news can be used as RSS feeds or use to develop newsletters on specific themes by the library and shared even to a broader audience. To complete all these activities a mailing list for librarians was established that supports further sharing of information and ideas. www.apkn.org

Cecilia Matanga
Africa i-Parliaments Action Plan
Kenya

Dear All,

The Egyptian Field Marshal, head of the Supreme Council of the Egyptian Armed Forces, decided to substitute the name of *Mubarak Public Libraries* for the name of *Egypt Libraries* in all over Egyptian territories, in the resolution no. 67. The decision is welcomed by the library staff who asserting that the old name of the library raised and provoke the public, where the library was looted and assault on the Friday of Anger just because of its name regardless of the cultural role and the leadership of the library which are forgot on that day.

Ayman S. Eldakrouy
British University in Egypt

African Library Summit

"Good libraries on the African continent are good for our students," says Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata, Executive Director of the Unisa Library Services, after she and her team successfully hosted the inaugural African Library Summit in collaboration with the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

The international event themed "*The future of African librarianship*" was held at the Misty Hills Conference Centre & Spa from 11 to 13 May and attended by leaders in the Library and information services (LIS) field from over 25 countries across Africa and Europe and Asia. The event was officially opened by Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture Dr Joe Phaahla, and Unisa Principal Prof Mandla Makhanya.

The summit was proudly supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation whose



representative at the summit Deborah Jacobs, stated that “the sustainability of library services not only creates a culture of learning but also strengthens communities,” adding that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is committed to advocating for libraries. Other sponsors include the Carnegie Foundation. Over 15 exhibitors came on board, including Sabinet, Elsevier, UKS, Lexis Nexus, Exclusive Books, SciVerse and Unisa Press.

Poet and sculpture extraordinaire Prof Pitika Ntuli also gave a keynote speech on leadership in African Librarianship, stating that “Africa has to create libraries that reflect the knowledge of African people and such meetings are the journey towards achieving this goal.”

The atmosphere created by the African Library Summit was that of collaboration and sharing of ideas towards the development of strategies and mechanisms to strengthen libraries on the African continent, as well as creating networks that will benefit students, including Unisa students. The summit organizers received a standing ovation from delegates after participating in the three day summit and rating the event as excellent. For more on the summit follow these links:

- <http://www.ifla.org/en/africa>
- [A letter of appreciation written to the hosts of the African Library Summit](#) – by Ibrahim Ramjaun, Mauritius
- [African Library Summit 2011 Organising Workgroup Members](#) – getting ready for the summit
- [Appreciation: African Library Summit](#) – by Prof Jacques du Plessis, USA
- [Comments re the African Library Summit by two leaders](#) – Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata and Ms Ellen Tise
- [Cool and crisp mornings](#)
- [Impressions of a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation representative](#)
- [Investigating the use of interactive technology to teach information literacy](#) – poster presentation by Yegis Naidu, Unisa
- [Mapping information literacy in the 21st century: an informetric analysis, 2001 to 2009](#) – poster presentation by Prof Onwoyo Bosire Onyanacha, Unisa
- [Observations re the African Library Summit 2011](#) – by Prof Jacques du Plessis, USA
- [Remerciements et felicitations: African Library Summit](#) – by Jean Michel Moudodo, Gabon
- [Some of the Indian Ocean island delegates participating in the flag ceremony during the Official Opening of the African Library Summit](#) – Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles
- [The African Library Summit kicks off!](#)

- [The beat of the African drum](#) – The drummer, Lucas Bonoko and Mr John Tsebe carrying in the South African flag
- [Towards LIS Optimum Curriculum for Africa to Address Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#) – poster presentation by Prof Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya, Uganda
- [The African Network for School Librarianship – IFLA: Africa Desk](#) – poster presentation by Busi Dlamini, Daniel Mangala, Lourence Das and Margaret Baffour-Awuah
- [Unisa Archives as a valuable African indigenous knowledge information resource – manuscripts, books and artefacts on the subject](#) – poster presentation by Marié Coetzee, Unisa
- [Université de la Reunion: a young but rapid expanding French University](#) – poster presentation by Valérié Mesgouez, Reunion

Natalia Molebatsi
UNISA, South Africa

Highlight Summit Outcome

Emanating from the African Library Summit in May 2011, there was a an exploratory team composed to investigate the formation of African library forum.

Shawky Salem, Africa Section SC Member from Egypt was identified as the coordinate for this purpose. He is to host the first meeting envisaged to be held in Cairo before end December 2011.

In his preparation for this meeting Shawky Salem came up with additional acronym for the forum in addition to the one proposed during the Summit

AFLA: African Federation of Library Associations
AFLIA: African Library & Information Associations
ALIS: African Library and Information Summit
AFLIB: African Federation for Library & Information Bodies

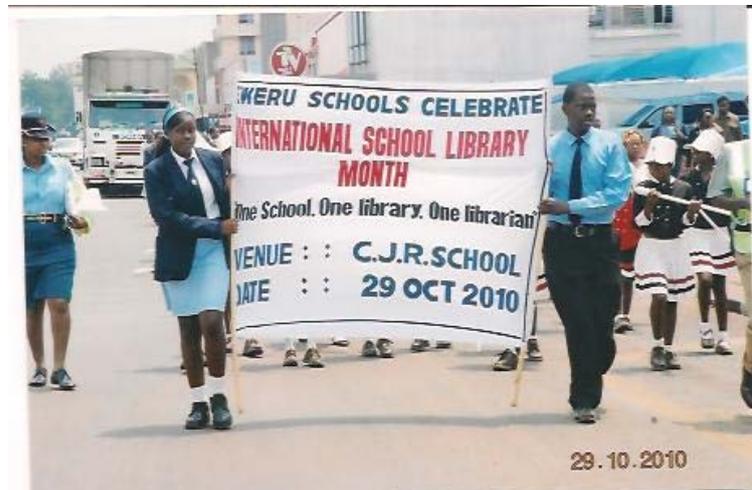
In addition to the identified individual it is hoped that the exploratory will include

Africa Section Members.
Some individuals who show interest during the summit meeting in May Ellen Tise and Kay Raseroka, to give us advise from their experience as past/president of IFLA.

For the starter the following people formed the exploratory team:

Zimbabwe Celebrates International School Library Month

In tandem with many other library associations and school libraries around the globe the Zimbabwe Library Association (ZimLA) joined the rest of the world in commemorating and celebrating the International School Library Month (ISLM) in a big way never seen in the lost long and challenging decade, bringing to fore the vibrancy of the LIS community in Zimbabwe. The celebrations were in 3 of the five ZimLA branches, namely Mashonaland, Midlands and Matebeleland during the period October 15th to 30th, 2010. There was pomp and ceremony as School Librarians, Teacher Librarians, Librarians, teachers and Students converged at the various centres in Harare, Gweru and Bulawayo. This enabled librarians from all walks of life to congregate, share aspirations and network.



The celebrations were unique in that they were being held simultaneously for the first time in Zimbabwe's three major provinces since the International School Library Day (ISLD) was proclaimed by the then International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) President Blanche Wools in 1999 and reaffirmed in 2005 by the then President of IASL Peter Geneo. IASL first celebrated ISLD in 1999 and has since been upgraded from a day to a month (ISLM).

The motive behind this special month of October is to draw attention to the significance of having school libraries in the education of our children. It is time to highlight what school libraries have done and can do for the students. It is a period to bring further attention to school libraries. ISLM is a time to create awareness of the achievements and potential of school libraries.

- South Africa - John Tsebe
- North Africa- Shawky Salem
- East Africa - Rosemary Gitachu
- West Africa - Helena Asamoah-Hassan
- Central Africa - Alim Garga
- Buhle Mbambo - Thata (Chair Division 5 and likely representative of Africa on the IFLA GB)
- Secretary - current Africa Section Secretary
- Current Chair of Africa Section
- Manager IFLA ,Africa Regional Office

This point will serve at the Section SC Meeting in Puerto Rico.

Lindy Nhlapo
South Africa

The theme for 2010 celebration was “Diversity Challenge Resilience: School libraries have it all!” As ZimLA we adopted our own sub-theme “One Library One School One Librarian” in our endeavour to advocate and lobby for better equipped and fully functional libraries through the relevant Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. At the three celebrating centres there were marches from the city centre to targeted schools namely PE in Harare, CRJ in Gweru and Evelyn Girls High in Bulawayo. Along the way other stakeholders and the general public joined and became part of the procession. During these long hour marches we held the CBDs in awe as it was our time to shout loud that we are PROUD TO BE LIBRARIANS. Cars stopped and hooted, office workers took time to stand and stare through the windows and the general public lined the pavements and waved in solidarity.

Oh what a day to remember!

ZimLA-NEC

Dear Colleagues,

Report: Tunisian public libraries affected due to the uprising of the Tunisian people

If you want to help the Tunisian libraries, you can take contact with Ahmed Khisbi:

hmedksibi@yahoo.fr

Danielle Mincio

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) welcomes Open Access Africa 2011



Open access science publisher BioMed Central will hold the 2nd Open Access Africa conference at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Tanzania in partnership with Computer Aid International. This free conference will run 25-26 October 2011 during International Open Access Week.

Open access publishing provides free, immediate, and permanent, online access to the full text of a research article. By removing restrictive subscription fees, geographic inequalities regarding the access to and use of high quality scientific resources are challenged.

Despite the vast population, current figures claim that only 0.7% of all research published comes from Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). In 2010 researchers from African countries cumulatively published 27,000 scientific papers. One of the leading reasons for the disparity in scientific output between SSA countries and other parts of the world is access to other people’s research. The upcoming conference will address issues that surround access to scientific and medical research developments that enable researchers in an African context to globally communicate the results of their work.

Complementing the objectives of Open Access Africa, BioMed Central has also created free Foundation Membership and an Open Access Package for university libraries in countries covered by [BioMed Central's Waiver Fund](#). Libraries hold a pivotal role in the dissemination of research and play an important part in future international social and scientific development. All participating members will experience a range of publishing benefits, thus ensuring the facilitation of scientific and medical information flow.

For further information and to register for our newsletter please visit:
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/developingcountries/>.

SEMINAR ON LIBRARY CAPACITY BUILDING INTERVENTIONS FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) FOR FRANCOPHONE AFRICA 10 – 11 FEBRUARY, 2011

Seminar on Library Capacity Building Interventions for the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Francophone Africa was held in Cameroon on the 9 – 10 February 2011.

The Seminar was attended by 32 local participants, 9 Africa Section SC. Also in the audience was a visitor from Burkina Faso and Kenya. This was a third follow up seminar since Durban, South Africa in 2007.

The aim of the seminar was

- to bring together Library Leaders in Francophone Africa to discuss the future of Libraries in the sub-region.
- to map out strategies for building/enhancing the capacity of libraries towards the achievement of the MDGs.
- to develop an Action Plan for carrying out the strategies

Africa Section Chair, Naomi Haasbroek, opened and welcomed participants to the Seminar followed by a presentation by IFLA president, Madam Ellen Tise. The official opening of the seminar was also graced by The Honorable Speaker of the National Assembly, Cavaye Yeguie Djibril. We were grateful to see his interest and support to the LIS Community. It gave hope for the future development of LIS in Cameroon. His main concern that he voiced and asked the profession to advise on, was on school libraries. The Speaker was accompanied by The Clerk, Yene Ossomba Victor; Vice Speaker, Baoro Theophile; Protocol Officer, Luma Eric who attended all events where IFLA President was present in order that protocol was observed.

Two presentations were made one by Victoria Okojie, Africa Section Secretary and by Dr. Buhle Mbambo – Thata, Chair Div. V and GB Member on MDGs to set the scene entitled:

***Libraries in Africa and the MDGs ~ Okojie, V
Libraries on the development agenda: strategies for meeting MDGs ~ Mbambo – Thata, B***

The two presentations were interrogated, debated on and questions rose by participants.

Rose Mary Shafack, past participant of MDG Seminar in Ghana, facilitated the first day of the Seminar.

After the scene setting, participants introduced themselves and expectations articulated. This part took more time than envisaged which was good to

create a common understanding. At this session participants expected to get answers to the following:

- How IFLA can help
- What is IFLA doing about the bad state of libraries in our country?
- Can IFLA fund us?
- Can IFLA talk to our government?
-

This was an advocacy opportunity for IFLA with emphasis to ALP work. ALP brochures were circulated and participants encouraged to subscribe to IFLA-L to keep up to date with all for project proposal and other funding opportunities in addition to global LIS news.

Day Two the seminar broke into the following group work:

- Library Schools
- Academic Library
- National/Public/School Libraries
- Library Association

Under the theme “Libraries in the Development Agenda and Strategies for Capacity Building to

Achieve the MDGs, points of discussion for each sector was:

1. What are the Strength, weakness, opportunities, threats in meeting MDGs
2. What capacity building initiatives are required to make this sector contribute to the meeting of MDGs.
3. Suggest how these can be funded and sustained

It is envisaged that all participants are now resource persons for French Speaking Africa on the subject. In cascading the seminar to other Francophone Africa, these are the people who will be able to facilitate such seminars/workshops. Africa Section and the Regional Office for Africa are grateful to the sponsorship and support of the Cameroon Assembly and to Emerald. Last but not least to IFLA ALP for granting the support to carry out this project.

**Lindy Nhlapo
South Africa**



Dr. Buhle Mbambo – Thata re-elected GB Member for a two year term. Africa Regions congratulated the colleague and we are grateful for her willingness to serve the continent. In response Dr. Buhle Mbambo – Thata said:

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your confidence, support, trust and voting for me for the GB elections. The results have come in, and I have been re elected for a two year. Thank you for your support.

We now need to start thinking about succession. Who shall be our candidate in the next elections?

Again, thank you for your support.

Regards

**Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata
South Africa**

FEW OF CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES RECEIVED

Congratulations, Well Done!! You deserve it, all the best in your term of office. A Chikonzo, Zimbabwe

Dear Buhle,
In the name of the Mozambican colleagues, I would like to present you our sincere congratulations for your election.
We are sure that your work at the GB will be the most successful.

Regards,
Aissa Issak, Mozambique

On behalf of the IFLA Africa Standing Committee I would like to congratulate the newly elected Members to the IFLA Africa Standing Committee for the term of office 2011-2015.

The term of office for these members will commence after Conference 2011. Welcome on board. We look forward to working with you and am sure that you will contribute significantly to the IFLA Africa Section activities.

- Abraham Azubuike (USA)
- Agnes Chikonzo (Zimbabwe)
- Agnes Joyce Gozo (South Africa)
- El Hassan Lemallem (Morocco)
- Alli Mcharazzo (Tanzania)
- Ellen Ndeshi Namhila (Namibia)
- Constantine M. Nyamboga (Kenya)
- Rosemary Shafack (Cameroon)
- Christian Yaw Kofi (Ghana)
- Dina Youssef (Egypt)

Congratulations also to those SC members who have been re-elected for a second term of office!!

Best regards

**Naomi Haasbroek
Chair: IFLA Africa Section
South Africa**

ALA HONOURS

CHICAGO – Yohannes Gebregeorgis was elected to honorary membership in the American Library Association (ALA) in action taken by the ALA Council at the ALA 2011 Midwinter Meeting, held January 7 to 11 in San Diego. Honorary Membership, ALA's highest honor, is conferred in recognition of outstanding contributions of lasting importance to libraries and librarianship.

Gebregeorgis will receive his plaque in June during the Opening General Session of the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Yohannes Gebregeorgis was nominated in recognition of his founding Ethiopia Reads, a nonprofit organization that is establishing children's libraries in Ethiopia and publishing bilingual and trilingual children's books, thereby providing the children an opportunity to learn the love of reading and increasing literacy throughout Ethiopia.

*Please let me know of similar organizations and leaders working in Africa that should be recognized.*** [Lavinia Gadsden@msn.com](mailto:Lavinia.Gadsden@msn.com)*

**Lavinia Gadsden
Developing Libraries for the Future
NY**

Helena Asamoah-Hassan named as Emerald's new Regional Advisor in Africa

United Kingdom, April 2011 – Emerald Group Publishing, a leading independent publisher of global research with impact in business, society, public policy and education, is delighted to announce the appointment of Helena Asamoah-Hassan as Regional Advisor in Africa.

Helena joins a growing team of academic and regional advisors as part of the company's commitment to facilitating the global production and dissemination of research. The appointment of a Regional Advisor in Africa enables the company to develop services and products in line with the needs of authors, customers and readers in the region, ensuring that Emerald remains an innovative and informed publisher. Helena comments, "I am delighted about this appointment and it is a great opportunity for me to put my professional experience, knowledge and networks into play for the benefit of African library information service and Emerald. Together we will improve access to scholarly information to and from Africa".

Helena is a very active member of the African and global librarian community and brings a wealth of knowledge to the role. As the University Librarian at KNUST (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology) Library in Ghana, she has served on several committees at national and international levels including the President of the Ghana Library Association from 2003 – 2006; a Commissioner of the Ghana National Media Commission from 2003 – 2006; a member of the International Review Team of the PERI (Programme for the Enhancement of Research Information) project of INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Information) for developing countries in 2004; Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the Africa Section of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) from 2005- 2007 and a member of the Governing Board of IFLA from 2007-to date .

The appointment of Helena as Regional Advisor supports Emerald's other activities on the continent, including the appointment of a Business Manager on territory in 2010 based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Emerald also offers a number of African research awards, such as the Emerald/ALCS African Engineering Research Fund and the Emerald/AABS Case Studies competition (further information is available at www.emeraldinsight.com/awards)

For further information about Emerald activities in Africa, please contact Africa@emeraldinsight.com

Eileen Breen
Emerald Group Publishing Limited

Third IAALD Africa Chapter Conference

e-Agriculture for Improved Livelihoods and Food Security in Africa

Emperors Palace
Johannesburg, South Africa
21 – 23 May 2012

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the Third IAALD Africa Chapter Conference on the theme "**e-Agriculture for Improved Livelihoods and Food Security in Africa**", scheduled for 21–23 May 2012 at the [Emperors Palace](#), Johannesburg, South Africa. For details, see: http://www.iaald-africa.org/conferences/iaald_africa_2012_conference.pdf.

Email: Justin.Chisenga@fao.org

Justin Chisenga
Ghana



14th International Symposium on Electronic Theses & Dissertations Conference, 13 – 15 September 2011, Cape Town

The National Research Foundation (NRF) will be hosting the 14th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD 2011)

The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) is an international organization dedicated to promoting the adoption, creation, use, dissemination and preservation of electronic analogues to traditional paper-based theses and dissertations. The NDLTD assists students and universities to more effectively share knowledge in order to unlock the potential benefits worldwide.

Forty (40) librarians from academic institutions from East, West, North and Francophone speaking countries will represent DATAD (Digitisation of African Theses and Dissertations) during the ETD2011. **Conference website:**

<http://dl.cs.uct.ac.za/conferences/etd2011>

Hein Spingies: heinrich.spingies@nrf.ac.za

Hein Spingies
South Africa



Second International Conference on African Digital Libraries & Archives (ICADLA-2) Johannesburg, South Africa on November. 14-18, 2011.

ICADLA-2 is a 5 day workshop and conference event to be held at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa from 14th – 18th November 2011.

The format of ICADLA-2 will be a three-day training workshop designed for leaders and decision makers and a two-day strategic digitisation project and programme planning conference.

The ICADLA-2 will provide a forum for African Institutions to: access and examine options for capacity development in all strategic areas of digitisation and digital preservation;

strengthen existing and build new networks including linkages necessary for knowledge sharing in the area; understand the strategic and management issues of developing digital resources from digitisation to delivery;

develop national digitisation programmes and strategies aimed at establishing the required digitisation infrastructure for access to

long term preservation of, African scholarly and cultural digital content and the creation of digital libraries

<http://www.wits.ac.za/newsroom/icadla-2/13167/workshop.html>

**Felix Ubogu
South Africa**



SCECSAL XX CONFERENCE

The XXth Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and South Africa Library and Information Associations (SCECSAL) 2012 conference will take place at Intercontinental Hotel, in Nairobi, Kenya, June 4 - 8 June 2012

Conference theme ***Information for Sustainable Development in a Digital Environment***

In recent years libraries and information centres in Africa have witnessed transformation from print to digital information. This has heralded both opportunities and challenges in creation, processing, storage, dissemination and managing digital information. The digital environment has provided information professionals in Africa an opportunity to reposition and take advantage of the enormous information being generated. Digital information can be repackaged according to users' needs and disseminated in a more timely and efficient way.

Papers and discussions at the conference will specifically cover the following sub-themes:

Sub-themes

- Managing Information in Digital Environment for Poverty Eradication
- Education and Training in Digital Environment
- Legal issues in digital environment
- Adoption of open source and open standards
- Re-position of libraries in information society
- Potential of library 2.0 in provision of information
- Open access and Institutional Repositories
- Information Standards in digital environment
- Digital preservation and archiving
- Digital Records Management
- Publishing and Web 2.0
- Social networking and information sharing
- Informetrics, Scientometrics and Webometrics
- Knowledge and Content Management
- Information Ethics in Digital Environment

How to Register

Conference fee
early bird registration [30th December 2011] 360 USD
normal registration [later than December 2011] 400 USD.

during conference: 450 USD

Contact the Conference Chairperson Jacinta Were:
jo_were@yahoo.com

**Prof. Constantine M. Nyamboga
Chairman, Kenya Library Association,
KENYA**

Take Note

African LIS Community is encouraged to update their IFLA membership.



Come and join us!

IFLA Membership, your global connection. Visit the website: www.ifla.org

IFLA Africa would like to welcome all its new members and thank you for choosing us. We thank all members who sustain their membership by renewing, without you, there is no IFLA.

Merci beaucoup! Muito Obrigada! ••••••••, Thank you very much; baie dankie!

African LIS Community is encouraged to populate the newsletter by submitting newsletter articles with photos of happening around their area. Also to be submitted is diary of events – what are you planning.

Make your submissions to: IFLA Regional Office for Africa Lnhlapo@unisa.ac.za



You are reminded and encouraged to subscribe to IFLA for all updates, news... in LIS



IFLA-L - Our general discussion list for the international library and information community. Stay informed! [Subscribe today!](#) It is essential, unmissable and yet for free!

CONTRIBUTORS

Lindi Nhlapo
African Library and Information Community

Editor
Lindy Nhlapo

Information Coordinator
Lindy Nhlapo

Webmaster
Joyce Myeza

Contributor
African LIS Community

IFLA HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 95312
2509 CH The Hague
Netherlands
Tel.: +31-70-3140884
Fax: +31-70-3834827
E-mail: ifla@ifla.org
Web-site: <http://www.ifla.org>

REGIONAL OFFICE AFRICA

University of South Africa
Library Services
P.O. Box 392
PRETORIA, 0003
South Africa
Tel. +2711 471 2826
Fax: +2711 471 2200
Emails: lnhlapo@unisa.ac.za

iflaafrica@unisa.ac.za
Web-site: <http://www.unisa.ac.za>