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**NEWSLETTER**  
AFRICA SECTION

N° 43 June 2013

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**FROM THE REGIONAL MANAGER’S DESK**



**Lindy Nhlapo, Regional Manager for Africa**

After a restful yearend holiday I hope we all feel revitalized and eager to continue with our 2013 tasks with enthusiasm.

The Office kick started the year in Nigeria at the midterm meeting which was a back to back with Emerald workshop. I really enjoy looking at the abstract that colleagues out there send for selection for the open forum during congress.

In the background, planning for the Annual Public Lecture on African Librarianship was also going on ant the lecture turned out to be a big success attended by 150 practitioners, Nepad, US Public Affairs and more. One of our own Helena Asamoah-Hassan was brilliant. Instead of half a day, the lecture carried on until the end of the business day. The programme director Gcina Mhlophe a renowned author, poet and friend of the books kept the participants on their toes through her poetry in motion.

Without a breather, ICADLA -3 held in Morocco was another task at hand where IFLA Africa had to make its mark. At ICADLA it’s where Africa takes stock if they are cutting a niche when it comes to digitization of our content and archives. Indeed it was good to be part of the organizing committee, panel of speakers and facilitators.

Quantum leap, to the final planning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Library Summit at my home ground. South Africa is looking forward to hosting young emerging leaders in the public library sector, decision makers in LIS, parliamentarians and strategic partners in this sector.

It is here where we going to launch a number of forums in African LIS and where Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA General Secretary will be joining us

I urge you Africa to send me all happenings in your area and diary of events to feature on this newsletter.

## Take Note

African LIS Community is encouraged to update their IFLA membership.



*Come and join us!*

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 Obrigado! الپیزج ارکش;  
Thank you very much. Baie dankie!

### Newsletter Articles

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](mailto:Lnhlapo@unisa.ac.za)



Lindy Nhlapo, South Africa



**IFLA WLIC 2013**  
**SINGAPORE**

17 – 23 August 2013

IFLA World Library and Information Congress, 79<sup>th</sup>  
General Conference and Assembly

<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla79>

**For all your inquiries contact the conference secretariat**

### Congress Secretariat

K.I.T. Group GmbH Association & Conference Management has been appointed as the Congress Secretariat for the IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2013.

IFLA Congress Secretariat  
c/o K.I.T. Group GmbH – Association & Conference Management  
Kurfürstendamm 71  
DE-10709 Berlin  
Germany  
Tel.: +49 30 24 60 3-329  
Fax: +49 30 24 60 3-399  
Email: [wlic2013@kit-group.org](mailto:wlic2013@kit-group.org)

### Also note important dates

Normal registration from: 14 August 2013  
Onsite registration: 16 August 2013  
Congress dates: 17 – 23 August 2013

**See you in Singapore!**

In assisting you plan your WLIC 2013 schedule, below is Africa specific activities not to miss

### Saturday 17 August 2013

- 08.00-09.30: Leadership Brief for all Section Officers
- 17.45-18.45: Caucus: Africa, Asia & Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean

### Sunday 18 August 2013

- 08.30-10.00: Div. V - Regions
- 13.45-15.45: Africa – SC I

### Tuesday 20 August 2013

- 12.00-14.00 Poster Session
- 16.00-18.00: National Association Members Meeting

### Wednesday 21 August 2013

- 09.30-11.30: Future African Libraries: innovation and creativity in services - Africa
- 13.45-15.45: ALP Project presentations – IFLA International Leaders Programme
- 13.45-14.45: Africa SC II

### Thursday 22 August 2013

- 08.30-10.30: LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG Collaboration Across Borders as Infinite Possibilities

After the a call for paper the Section received 18 abstracts where only four were selected for the Open Forum to which you are urged and encouraged to attend on

**Wednesday, 21 August at 09h30.** Our speakers:

~ **Jean Pierre Diouf, Senegal. French**  
 ~ **John S Agbenyo, Ghana. English**  
 ~ **Victoria Okojie, Nigeria. English**

**The fourth will be announced shortly**

The African LIS Community is invited to also support the SC Meetings for the continent's update.

**Lindy Nhlapo, South Africa  
 Regional Manager for Africa**

### *From the Chair's Pen*



Greetings to all LIS African Community! First on the SC agenda for 2013 was the midterm meeting in February hosted by the Chair in Nigeria. The Africa Section Mid Term meeting was held from the 6-9 February 2013, Abuja, Nigeria. Day one of the Africa Section Mid Term Meeting began with a workshop on Electronic Publishing sponsored by Emerald, facilitated by Rejaene Van Dyke, the Accounts Executive Manager of Emerald Insight- Sub-Saharan Africa. 100 librarians attended the workshop. Africa Section Mid Term meeting started effectively on Thursday, 7 February, 2013. The Chairperson, Dr. Victoria Okojie, welcomed all present at the Mid Term meeting. 13 members, including the IFLA Regional Manager for Africa attended the meeting. The agenda for the meeting was presented and adopted. Minutes of the Africa Section meetings held in Helsinki during the IFLA General Congress were read, amended and adopted. Matters arising from the agenda were discussed. Items on the agenda were discussed elaborately.

#### **Highlights of the meeting**

- The Chair of SC announced that two SC members whose tenures were coming to an end in August 2013 will be recognized later.
- The Chair announced that three corresponding members to Africa Section had been appointed for a period of five years and these included, Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan, Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata and Mrs Jacinta Were.
- From matters arising on the minutes was IFLA Honours and Awards. In line with this, it was recalled that in 2012 during the Africa Section Mid-Term Meeting held in Bulawayo-Zimbabwe, it was agreed that Dr. Helena Assamoah Hassan's name be put forward for the IFLA Honours and Awards. The meeting was informed that this was done, and in Helsinki – Finland during the IFLA Congress, Dr. Assamoah was given the award. It was equally informed that Mrs. Jacinta Were's name has been presented for the 2013 IFLA Honours and Awards to be deliberated on at the IFLA Governing Board meeting in May 2013
- Call for papers, the Secretary indicated that 18 abstracts were received with 5 selected. Four papers are required and the fifth is a backup.

## REPORTS

Three reports were presented at the meeting with the following highlights

### The Chairperson's Report

- With respect to nominations for IFLA president-elect and GB she informed that about 20 nominations have been received for Dr. Mbambo-Thata. Ellen Namhila had been nominated for the position of GB, member. A number of people from different countries have been nominated for the Africa Section SC membership.
- SC Members present were encouraged to indicate their availability to chair session at the upcoming July 2013 Summit in South Africa

### Regional Manager's Report

- The renewal of the UNISA/IFLA partnership for a period of 5 years ending in 2017 UNISA been honoured to continue to host this office
- The Regional was in the process of hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture, May 2013 in partnership with Unisa Library. Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan will be the main speaker at his event.
- IFLA President's visit to the Regional Office was the most exciting honour
- The Regional Office is working with ICADLA Secretariat in organizing the upcoming ICADLA-3 in Morocco in May 2013. The Regional participated in this event as a SC member
- SC Members were requested to familiarize themselves with IFLA Website
- Regional Manager indicated that she was part of the steering committee for the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> African Library Summit of July 2013, South Africa

### ATINA SIG Report

- Abraham Azubuike, coordinator of ATINA reported that the former coordinator, Mr. Francis Kirkwood handed over the activities of ATINA to him in Helsinki, Finland in August 2012
- Many people were interested in the activities of ATINA, a formal list of the group members involved with the activities will be presented for endorsement by the IFLA Africa SC.

### LIS Education in Developing countries, SIG

No report received from the coordinator

Victoria Okojie, Nigeria

## PRESERVING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS IN THE 21ST CENTURY AFRICAN LIBRARY



In celebration of Africa Liberation Day 2013, the Unisa Library collaborated with the IFLA Regional Office for Africa in hosting their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Lecture in the series *African librarianship in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. The lecture, titled *Harnessing information content of indigenous Akan symbols for societal development*, was presented by Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan, Head Librarian at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana. The lecture demonstrated the relevance and significance of African indigenous knowledge.

Asamoah-Hassan stated that African libraries should house and protect African indigenous systems – including symbols well sought after, so that knowledge and lessons from these do not fade. She highlighted that “our communities are centres of knowledge and that school libraries can harness this information for the younger generation of Africans”.

She shared proverbs and meaning woven into everyday artifacts such as fabrics, patterns and colours that the Akan people use. “Our communities and their memories are our libraries,” she said, also asking: “what does it mean to be an African in the 21st century?”

With the rise of information technologies such as library repositories and digital archives, it is important to ensure that IKS are intertwined within the high-tech digital age in order to preserve them.

The Akan symbols she presented bear relevance in today's society as they promote values such as patience and tolerance, as well as affirm loyalty, for example. Different kinds of cloth (such as the Kente), crafts, and jewelry are still used to distinguish leaders and royalty, as well as rituals and special events, among others.

Asamoah-Hassan urged African librarians and information specialists to travel within the 21st century armed with clear ideas on how to treasure and preserve African knowledge symbols and their meaning, stating that libraries play a significant role for this preservation sharing of meaning.

Asamoah-Hassan's lecture was discussed by well-known scholars in the area of African IKS, Dr Natalie Swanepoel of the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at Unisa, Baba Buntu of the Ebukhosini Solutions, and Professor Bosire Onyancha of Unisa's Information Science Department. The lecture was facilitated by acclaimed story-teller and poet extraordinaire, Dr Gcina Mhlophe, who expressed her appreciation for librarians for their love of books and knowledge.

The lecture series is organised by the IFLA-Africa Regional Manager, Lindi Nhlapo.



**Natalia Molebatsi**  
Marketing Coordinator, Unisa Library Services SA

\*\*\*\*\*

**Unisa Institutional Repository (IR)**

The Unisa Institutional Repository (IR) was again ranked 2nd in Africa by the Ranking Web of Repositories (<http://repositories.webometrics.info/>) in February 2013. Internationally the UnisaIR was ranked 91st in February 2013, moving up from a 146th position in July 2012.

[Read more on the intranet](#)

**Dudu Nkosi, Unisa Library Services. South Africa**



**THIRD INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN  
DIGITAL LIBRARIES AND  
ARCHIVES  
(ICADLA-3)**

Societal advance depends on access to information and

knowledge and Libraries and Archives have played a vital role in the advancement of human society. It is for this reason that the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on African Digital Libraries & Archives (ICADLA-3) chose the theme of: *“Digital Libraries and Archives in Africa: Changing Lives and Building Communities”*.

ICADLA-3 was hosted by Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco on the 30-31 May 2013

**Highlights and outcome of the conference**

ICADLA Organisational Structure and Model

- formalisation of ICADLA structures to inform future planning in order to further the objectives of ICADLA and address challenges, as well as undertake much needed fundraising programmes.
- ICADLA needs to change its name to proper brand and explain its objectives.
- National Digitisation Initiatives should be established (possibly using the South African Digitisation Initiative as a model which could then feed into ICADLA and ICADLA structures. These national initiatives, with ICADLA support, could lobby nationally, roll-out training and build capacity.
- Partner with the African Digital Library Support Network to rollout training.
- Expand the Online presence and Website to provide support, including publishing guidelines, policies and procedures as well as best-practice models in digitization and digital preservation, forums and listserv and standardization of equipment/software.

ICADLA SC and Secretariat under the auspices of Felix Ubogu, Wits University Library appreciates the offer from Ghana LIS Leadership for agreeing to host the next conference in 2015

Visit ICADLA website for more details:

<http://www.wits.ac.za/conferences/icadla>

**Compiled by Gabriele Mohale**

Sedgefield, South Africa  
26 December 2012

Dear Friends and Colleagues

The year has passed far too quickly, and the end of the year is upon us. My annual Christmas ABC is into its fifth year now, at the letters M, N and O. At the beginning of the year it did not seem difficult to find library pictures for the letters M, N and O. As many of you know, for each letter I select a picture of a library I have visited, normally one taken by myself with my 'point-and-shoot' camera (there have been one or two exceptions). By the end of November I realized I was missing libraries for letters N and O. So after a visit to Worcester (Western Cape) we made a detour to visit the little town of Napier and photograph its library, and a few weeks later we crossed the Outeniqua Mountains, which separate the Garden Route from the Little Karoo, to visit Oudtshoorn for the same reason. It was a fun day trip, but in summer it gets really hot in Oudtshoorn. Next year I really must do something in good time about the letters P, Q, and R. I have material for P. R should not be too difficult, but Q will necessitate an expedition, perhaps to Queenstown in the Eastern Cape.

Thank you for your cards and messages. It's been good to hear from you. I'm sorry that I'm not able to respond to each of them individually, but instead offer the following brief update:

We've been in Sedgefield now since July 2011. We are in the middle of the Garden Route of the Western Cape Province, a lush coastal strip of mountains, forests, lakes and beaches. Check out <http://www.discover-sedgefield-south-africa.com/> for general information, lots of links and some pictures. An aerial view can be found at [http://www.littlebrak.co.za/Sedgefield-Garden-Route-South-Africa-information\\_content\\_op\\_view\\_id\\_37](http://www.littlebrak.co.za/Sedgefield-Garden-Route-South-Africa-information_content_op_view_id_37). This is a stunningly beautiful area. I have still have to pinch myself from time to time to make sure I'm not dreaming.

I feel particularly privileged in that I am able to live here and remain professionally and academically active. This is made possible by the Internet, and especially by the enlightened approach of the Department of Information Science at the University Pretoria, where I hold a position as a part-time off-campus professor with research as my main responsibility. So I get paid for doing what I love to do – research and writing. Once a year I also teach my course on International and Comparative Librarianship online as an adjunct instructor at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. I'm still working on a book on this subject, due to be delivered to the publisher, De Gruyter Saur, by 31 December 2013. The first five chapters can be found on my blog at <http://peterlor.com/the-book>, but not much has been added or updated since last year, since this year I made very little progress. There were too many distractions. I travelled overseas four times, giving lectures and presentations, and have several journal articles published or in press. In September Monika accompanied me to Italy, for a fortnight in Parma, where I taught some classes in the Erasmus Mundi DILL (international master in Digital Library Learning) programme at the University of Parma. While in Italy we also visited Bologna, Venice and Mantua. After Parma, we travelled by train to Avignon, Lyon and Antwerp, where we had a great reunion with family and friends, before joining our return flight from Amsterdam Schiphol.

My New Year's resolution is firmly to decline all invitations to conferences or to submit articles during 2013. No international travel until the book MS has been submitted – not even to the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, which I've only missed once since 1992. I will have withdrawal symptoms.

On the personal front, Monika and I celebrated our fortieth wedding anniversary (4 January) in mid-February, which made it easier for our two overseas sons, Martin (38) and Sebastian (31), from Maidstone (England) and Rotterdam (the Netherlands) respectively to join us. February is a good time to be here. It's not so busy, and the weather is great. It was the first time in many years that we had all been together. Our middle son, Alfred (34), lives in nearby Knysna. It is great to have at least one of one's children so close by.

The year was dominated by building operations. We've been very preoccupied with the planning and execution of our alterations and extensions. Our little cottage at 6 Pelican Lane stood on stilts, which have now been replaced by concrete foundations and brick walls, to create a large studio for Monika and study for me. Further extensions to the property are ongoing and we hope that the work will be completed within a few months.

I close with my very best wishes for health, success, and above all, peace, in 2013. Peter Lor  
[peterjlor@gmail.com](mailto:peterjlor@gmail.com)

**M** is for **Mineral Point** (population c. 2500), a small town (US: "city") in Iowa County, south-western Wisconsin, which we visited on our first US road trip in August 2009. It was an early mining town (lead and zinc) and Cornish miners were recruited to work the mines. This heritage is reflected in the town's unique architecture. It looks a bit run-down but is staging a come-back as a tourist centre. The library, pictured here, is quite small and cramped, but it was a friendly place and, in the middle of the summer vacation, a hive of activity. Good use was being made of the Internet-enabled workstations, by both old and young inhabitants.



**N** is for **Napier**, a small town (population c. 3200) in the Overberg wheat-growing area of the Western Cape province. In the 1970s my parents considered buying a house there for their retirement, for around \$200 – property was dirt cheap, as the population was declining, (They moved to Sedgfield instead.) Today it's a different story, as tourism has taken off and Napier has become a popular weekend destination for Capetonians. I was told that there are about 650 registered borrowers (400 adults and 250 children), but in contrast with Mineral Point there were none in this neatly kept, spic and span, little library when I visited, I was told this was because the school term had ended. In South Africa public libraries are not necessarily the community hubs that American public libraries tend to be. The librarian and the cleaning lady kindly posed for me at the circulation desk.



**O** is for Oudtshoorn (population c. 80000), the major town of the Little Karoo and the world capital of ostrich farming. Two major booms in ostrich feathers (1870s and early 20<sup>th</sup> century) resulted in fortunes being made, and this is still evident in the large Cape Victorian mansions ("feather palaces") to be seen in the town and district. The town's most famous citizen was the Afrikaans writer, C.J. Langenhoven, after whom Oudtshoorn's public library is named. It's a spacious, well-stocked library. Here some users were in evidence, but there were none in the trilingual (Afrikaans, English, isiXhosa) "Information Station", which is equipped with eight Internet-enabled workstations and a good reference collection. Again the absence of users was attributed to the school holidays. In South Africa public libraries are an important resource for students, who may not have suitable study facilities at home or in their schools, but I do sometimes worry that the perfectly-ordered bookshelves reflect a lack of usage for recreational and other general reading.



A new Association has just been born in Africa! The African Library and Information Association and Institutions (AFLIA) has been established!!!

At the last SC Mid Term meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria in February, 2013, the Interim Committee of AFLIA was elected. Those elected were:

President	Helena Asamoah-Hassan
Secretary	Valentina Bannerman
North Africa Rep	Shawky Salem
Central Africa Rep	Alim Garga
West Africa Rep	Rilwanu Abdulsalami
East Africa Rep	Jacinta Were
Southern Africa Rep	John Tsebe

The Chair of IFLA Africa Section is a Statutory Ex-Officio member of the Committee.

The swearing-in ceremony of the Interim Committee will take place at the Africa Library Summit in Pretoria, 2-5 July, 2013.

On behalf of the IFLA Africa Section, I congratulate the President and other Officers of AFLIA and wish them a successful term in office.

**Victoria Okojie, Nigeria**

### African Public Library Network

African Public Libraries Directors and practitioners meeting in Pretoria in September 2012 agreed to form a Network that would enable African public librarians to speak with one voice. It would be a platform for them to engage with their leaders at both the National and regional as well as continental level advocate for the placement of public libraries firmly on the development agenda. It would also enable knowledge sharing and networking among the practitioners. The public librarians have already formed an on-line discussion group that discusses best practices and how to emulate them in other parts of the continent.

The details of the network need to be looked at over time and meanwhile we could network through a Listserv. I sent out invitations inviting you to accept to subscribe to that Listserv. It is Public\_Libraries\_Africa. Please click on the button that requires you to accept to subscribe. It is important for all of us to get these discussions going. This network is known as the African Public Library [gkmulindwa@nlu.go.ug](mailto:gkmulindwa@nlu.go.ug) has invited you to join the **Public\_Libraries\_Africa** group!

[Join this group!](#)

**Gertrude Kayaga Mulindwa, Uganda**



**D. Musemburi**

UZ library has introduced innovative digital solutions referred to as **Access Application tools** to assist students with varying degrees of visual impairment.

The Access applications tools can be categorized into two groups and these are; Reading and Writing Support.

### Reading Support

This category of tools converts text to speech from Word and PowerPoint documents, where a visually impaired user can thus listen via earphones to the text being read out. Text to speech software is customizable where one can adjust the speed, volume and pitch of the voice.

The *VuBar tool* works well for those people with dyslexia who can hardly read line by line get support from this tool which creates a frame that allows one line to be visible at a time as one is reading

### Visual Support

Writing support has a tool called *Rapid Set* which changes font and background color of the monitor. Visual support tools enhance the visibility of all objects and documents. Virtual magnifying glass monitor enlarges text.

*EnorMouse, QuickRes and Sonar* cursor ring are tools that provide enlarged icons for maneuvering over a computer monitor. These icons are ideal in the sense that their appearance colour can also be customized according to one's preference. Exciting to note about these tools is that they user friendly and compactable to carry around.

**A Chikonzo, Zimbabwe**

## ELLECTION RESULTS

Colleagues have run the race. Colleagues have given of themselves to serve the profession. For President-Elect, the continent contested in the personality of Buhle Mbambo-Thata, South Africa / Zimbabwe, Ellen Namhila was nominated for GB. We congratulate these stalwarts for their courage.

Africa Region take this opportunity congratulate Donna Scheeder, US for President Elect portfolio not forgetting out Division V Chair, Dan Donner – NZ.

We also like to thank our current Division Chair, Felipe Martinez for his leadership. It was a beginning of friendship and family bond that we hope to continue.

Coming closer home, colleagues in the continent were nominated into the Standing Committee. It is good to note that the SC strive to cover the continent wide and basically all the language segment that prevails – Anglophone, Francophone, Arabic. We still a little with the small group of Portuguese community maybe because it is not IFLA Language. Nevertheless the continent has awakened and is making its mark.

Current SC Members who stood a chance for a second term, I would like to say welcome back; Welcome to the new members. If it's your first time into SC, we are all available for support and to help you learn the ropes. We are referring to:

- ✓ Nthabiseng Kotsokoane, SA
- ✓ Ujala Satgoor, SA
- ✓ Rachel More, SA
- ✓ Bongiwe Magocha, Botswana

The council of elders is always available to mentor everyone every time.

We also have members who will be leaving the SC after serving for two. These colleagues they will always remain our support system

- ✓ Ayanda Lebele, Botswana but based in Ethiopia
- ✓ James Daniel, Nigeria
- ✓ Naomi Haasbroek, SA

When I started as Regional Manager James Daniel was the Secretary of the Section. Very calm, patient mentor I had. Today I stand tall hence I can comfortably say, fare thee well to him.

<http://www.ifla.org/news/results-of-election-of-governing-board-2013>

## AFRICAN STORIES

Congratulations to two winners of the EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme (EIFL-PLIP) Award for empowering women and girls through ICT -

<http://www.eifl.net/news/eifl-plip-awards-libraries-empowering-women>

Thanks to everyone who helped us share the award invitation through their networks and contacts in the library community.

The EIFL-PLIP Innovation Awards recognize innovative library services that use ICT to improve lives and livelihoods. The awards are open to all public and community libraries in developing and transition countries. Click the link to read more about the the [EIFL-PLIP Innovation Awards](#)

African LIS Community is encouraged to read African stories by EIFL's Public Library Innovation Programme - EIFL-PLIP on these links:

2 African libraries contributing to community health  
<http://www.eifl.net/news/two-african-libraries-help-improve-community->

3 African libraries contributing to agriculture / improving farmers' lives  
<http://www.eifl.net/news/three-new-library-services-farmers-uganda>

2 African libraries helping struggling schoolchildren improve their marks  
<http://www.eifl.net/news/two-african-libraries-help-improve-school-res>

<http://www.eifl.net/news/eifl-looks-forward-implementation-marrakesh>

**Jean Fairbairn**  
**EIFL-PLIP Communications**

**ALP News**

The ALP committee has endorsed a strategy for its work over the next three years, focusing efforts on three areas. ALP's objective is to strengthen the ability of the library and information sector to advocate for equitable access to information and resilient, sustainable library communities. We will achieve this through the following strands of IFLA ALP:

- ✓ Building the capacity of national and regional library associations (BSLA)
- ✓ Developing leaders who can effectively represent the wider library sector in the international arena, and within IFLA (IFLA International Leaders Programme)
- ✓ Evaluating the impact of our work and turning outcomes into policy, guidelines and standards for further development of the LIS sector (Advancing the Professional Agenda)

***Building Strong Library Associations programme***

ALP Committee has endorsed a strategy for the continuation of the BSLA programme. The programme will build on the success of the initial country projects, and include a mix of new country projects, regional activities and events by:

- ✓ Implementing projects in collaboration with regional library associations, to cascade to their member associations;
- ✓ Identifying funding or advocacy opportunities for BSLA;
- ✓ Identifying trainers from the initial country projects, who will now be trained to deliver projects in other countries;
- ✓ Identifying opportunities for networking and experience sharing, e.g. at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, regional conferences, and through BSLA convening;
- ✓ Organising workshops, training and other activities to build on activities in the regions;
- ✓ Strengthening links with the IFLA International Leaders Programme.

***IFLA International Leaders Programme***

Associates are continuing work in their project groups, on topics including Access to Digital Content, Regional Collaboration, and Libraries and Development. The Open Access and regional collaboration groups have completed surveys of colleagues in the regions. The Associates will meet at the IFLA Congress in Singapore this August, with a full programme of sessions and participation in the main congress programme planned.

**Fiona Bradley**  
ALP Coordinator

Dear Division V Colleagues:

I invite you to read the note about the IFLA President Meeting 2013 that was posted in the Professionally Speaking Blog

<http://blogs.ifla.org/profspeak/2013/03/21/ifla-presidential-meeting-2013/>

Felipe Martinez  
Div. V, Chair

\*\*\*\*\*

**2013 CILIP/IFLA Aspire Award winner selected**

web version: <http://www.ifla.org/node/7763>

Lynn Jibril has been selected to receive the 2013 CILIP/IFLA Aspire award for a new professional.

IFLA and CILIP launched the Aspire Award in memory of CILIP's Chief Executive Bob McKee, who died in August 2010. The Award supports Bob's strong interests in developing new professionals and strengthening international relationships by providing bursaries for new professionals to attend CILIP and IFLA conferences.

For 2013, IFLA is providing an international bursary to support a new professional with a grant for up to 3,000 EUR to cover registration for the IFLA congress this year in Singapore, accommodation, flights, and per diem.

Lynn Jibril holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Botswana and a Diploma in Secondary Education. She serves actively in professional associations such as Botswana library Association, Botswana Teachers' Union and Botswana Secondary teachers' Union. She has contributed significantly to the setting up of school libraries in Botswana and has continued to provide hands on practical skills on the organisation of school libraries in Botswana.

In addition, Lynn has co-authored position papers on the role of the teacher librarian in the educational system of a developing economy. She is a strong advocate of improved status of school librarians and libraries and is currently involved in a project aimed at **uplifting school libraries** with provision of modern connectivity technology to enhance learning in schools.

The UK Aspire Award winner will soon be announced.

**IFLA Webmaster**

Dear all,



IFLA is delighted to launch the French version of its website from July 8 2013. Many of IFLA's policies, guidelines, and other documents have been available in IFLA's seven official languages, and other languages, for some time. The launch of the French version of the website provides improved access to existing and newly translated content in French.

Multilingual access and content started with the Spanish language, and is now followed by French. A selection of key documents, policies and guidelines has been translated. More content and translations into other IFLA languages will follow.

I am very happy with this development and am looking forward to having the website available in more languages in the future. My sincere thanks go to the volunteer translators and the Governing Board working group as well as all IFLA staff members who made this important release possible.

Merci beaucoup, [www.ifla.org/node/7860](http://www.ifla.org/node/7860) visit the President's Newsletter for more news

**Ingrid Parent**  
**IFLA President 2011-2013**

Dear IFLA Colleagues,

IFLA has signed a contract with ECS Partners Limited (<http://www.eprints.org/>) for the building and hosting of its new repository using EPrints Services. The repository will be publicly launched during 2013 with contents including all 2013 World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) papers, existing IFLA standards, and a selection of advocacy documents. In time, freely-available full-text resources and links to restricted content for all IFLA resources will be uploaded and the contents will be developed and increased, in particular with new resources for each subsequent WLIC.

The following links relate to the work done thus far:

<http://www.ifla.org/strategic-plan/key-initiatives/digital-content/repository>

<http://www.ifla.org/repository-news>

<http://blogs.ifla.org/profspeak/2013/05/08/eprints-selected-for-the-ifla-repository/>

**Joanne Yeomans**  
**Professional Support Officer**

**Memory of the World**

Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan, University Librarian of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana , Founding President of the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions(AfLIA) and past Governing Board member of IFLA, has been elected as Chairperson of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of UNESCO's Memory of the World (MOW) Programme, for 2013-2015. This was at the 11th Meeting of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) which was held in Gwanju, South Korea from 17-21 June 2013. It may interest you to know that since the existence of the IAC for the past 20 years, Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan is the first African to Chair it.

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**AfLIA**

Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan was nominated as the Interim President/Chair of AfLIA at the Midterm Meeting in February 2013 which was held in Nigeria

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**Tan Keat Fong**

IFLA Africa would like to congratulate one on our own in Division V, Keat Fong on her retirement. Keat Fong was the Regional Manager for Asia and Oceania since 2006. I first met her in Quebec, Canada at IFLA WLIC 2008. With her experience as the Regional Manager then, she is amongst the people who taught me the baton.

Congratulations to Keat and we wish her well in her new chapter



**Buhle Mbambo-Thata**

It gives us great pleasure to announce that, B Mbambo-Thata, received the **Chairperson of Council’s Award for Distinguished Leadership** at the Official Opening Ceremony on 6 February 2013.

The commitment and performance of staff contributes to the success and achievements of the University, putting it amongst the leading universities in the world.

Buhle Mbambo-Thata’s leadership in the profession nationally and internationally is herewith recognized.

Congratulations Mbambo-Thata on your inspirational leadership and performance and thank you for setting an example for your colleagues locally and abroad.

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Buhle Mbambo – Thata for standing for the portfolio of President Elect. You no doubt shown your willingness to serve the continent, we commend you

On the same breath the Section congratulates Ellen Namhila for making it to the GB list. We wish her well as she represents us on this forum.

#### *Buhle in her own words*

*I write to thank you most sincerely for your support during the nominations and elections! I knew I could count on each of your support during the race. That strengthened me on the inside. I thank you most sincerely for you support, and in all languages I know - ngiyabonga, ndinotenda, ke a leboga, medasi, dankie, merci.*

*It is time to congratulate Ellen Ndeshi Namhila for her election into GB! Congratulations Ellen, may you have a good term!*

*I look forward to seeing most you at the Summit in July.*

#### *Ellen Namhila in her own words*

*Thank you indeed for your kind words. I am looking forward to be of meaningful to libraries in Africa, and would rely on your continued advice and support.*

*With kind regard. Ellen*

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Africa ululate Dr. Noha Adly for his appointment as the First Deputy to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, as of 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2013. He is really our pride and example of LIS practitioners getting into the government of the day. Congrats!

#### *Dr Noha in his own words*

*Dear friends and colleagues,  
I am writing to you today, as I wanted to share with you an important step in my career. I have been recently appointed by the Prime Minister, for a national mission, to occupy the post of First Deputy to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, as of 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2013.*

*As you all know, I was honored, over the past twelve years, to contribute in building the ICT Sector’s infrastructure as well as establishing the BA’s digital projects. It was such a challenge and a joy. Such bond with a place that I cherish and was proud to be part of its success could not be untied. However, I could not say no to a call for serving my country. Therefore, I have taken a leave of absence from the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA), during the period of the mission, to assume the duties of the new post. In this context, I would like to inform you that I will be doing my best to oversee and coordinate all facets related to our partnerships and joint projects, during my absence, remotely, as time permits. I will attend to all correspondence received from your side, but, I seek your understanding, if I do not respond immediately as I might not be able to check my BA account often.*

*During my absence, my deputy at the BA, Youssef Salah, will be managing the day to day affairs of the ICT Sector at the BA and Dr Magdy Nagi continues to serve as a senior consultant to the ICT sector and to the international projects.*

*I seize this opportunity to ensure that our mutual cooperation has been a true and vital factor in the great successes and accomplishments achieved by the ICT sector of the BA during the past years, and I am certain that this collaboration will keep on having fruitful and important outcomes in the future for our institutions.*

*With my sincere regards,*

**African Library Summit, 2013**

<http://www.unisa.ac.za/africanlibrarysummit>

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**SCECSAL XXI CONFERENCE**

11 - 15 August 2014

Bingu International Conference Centre  
Lilongwe, Malawi

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**Namibia Libraries Symposium 2013**

Safari Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia

7 - 10 OCTOBER 2013

**Theme "Strong Libraries, Strong Societies"**

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The theme "Libraries in Dialogue for Transformation and Innovation" for more details:

<http://conference2013.liasa.org.za/>

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