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# LIASA-IN-TOUCH

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION OF S A  
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## ELLEN TISE ELECTED AS MEMBER OF IFLA'S GOVERNING BOARD

Ellen Tise, President of LIASA, has been elected as a member of the Governing Board of the International Federation of Library and Information Associations (IFLA). Kay Raseroka of the Botswana Library Association was elected to the IFLA Presidency. (See full report on p3.)

The IFLA General Conference will take place in Boston (United States of America) from 18 to 25 August 2001. A number of South Africans will be attending the conference such as Ellen Tise (President), Joan de Beer (Vice-president), Gwenda Thomas (Executive Director), Haffy Haffajee (Member of Representative Council) and Ramesh Jayaram (Member of Representative Council).



Ellen Tise, President of LIASA, who has been elected as a member of the Governing Board of IFLA

## SOUTH AFRICA'S BID TO HOST THE IFLA 2007 CONFERENCE

The Executive Committee of LIASA has requested the National Office to submit its intention to bid to host the 2007 IFLA Conference. A letter of intent will be compiled and submitted to IFLA by September in which it is required to propose a venue, detailed information about the facilities as well as LIASA and to answer a series of questions. If selected in the first round, a delegation will visit South Africa in March 2002 to inspect and assess the facilities and infrastructure in our country. A final decision will be announced at the IFLA 2002 Conference.

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## PUPPET SHOW AT RUSTENBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Rustenburg Public Library is known for its well-attended holiday programmes. As part of the June/July holiday programme Machteld van Nieuwkerk from Puppetales presented a puppet show at the library. What made this puppet show unique is its presenter. Machteld van Nieuwkerk is a world-class puppeteer that performed all over the world. She is very popular in Germany, where she performs at the Puppet Festival on an annually basis. Machteld makes her own puppets and marionettes and has a selection of puppet shows to choose from. She also presents workshops on puppeteering. Apart from the more traditional stories like the Three Bears pictured on the photo, Machteld also does a wonderful Paper Theatre performance and is the proud owner of a Nelson Mandela and Francois Pienaar puppet! Machteld can be contacted at Tel no (011) 609-8158.



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# LIASA

## LIASA-IN-TOUCH

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Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of LIASA or the Editorial Committee.

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## AFRICA GETS TOP POSITIONS IN IFLA

LIASA's President, Ellen Tise, has been elected to the Governing body of the International Federation of Library and Information Associations (IFLA) while Kay Raseroka from Botswana was elected as President elect and will be President of IFLA from 2003 to 2005.

*LIASA-in-Touch* wishes to extend its sincere congratulations to Ellen Tise and Kay Raseroka on their elections to the positions indicated above. Here follows a summary of their professional activities and careers:

### ELLEN TISE

Ellen Tise matriculated in 1978 at the Senior Secondary School Emil Weder, Genaden-dal. She obtained tertiary-level qualifications at the University of the Western Cape, namely the Lower Diploma in Library Science (1982), a BA-degree (1988), a Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science (1990) and a B Bibl (Hons) (1993).

Ellen held a number of library positions at different institutions such as the University of the Western Cape, the former Brakpan City Council and the Medical Satellite Library of the University of the Orange Free State. In 1996 she was appointed Assistant University Librarian - Client Services and in 1997 Deputy University Librarian - Client Services at the University of the Witwatersrand. She is currently the Director of Library Services at the University of the Western Cape, a position she has held since March 2001.

Ellen was actively involved in the unification process of library associations in South Africa. She was the Secretary of the Interim Executive Committee of the Unification of Library and Information Stakeholders in South Africa (ULIS-2) from 1996 - 1997. Thereafter she was a member of the Transitional Executive Committee of LIASA from its founding in 1997 till 1998. Ellen was the first elected President of LIASA in 1998 and was elected for a second term in 2000.

### KAY RASEROKA

Kay Raseroka is the Director of Library Services at the University of Botswana. She plays an important role in the library and information world in Botswana, frequently acting as consultant for Ministries and major Corporations.



Kay Raseroka

Kay has played an active role in IFLA since 1987. She was *inter alia* Chairperson for IFLA's regional activities: African Section. She was also Chairperson of SCANUL during 1994-1996. She was a member of the Editorial Board of *Information Development*.

Her list of publications shows an interest in a wide variety of libraries and information related topics such as literacy, regional libraries, public libraries in Africa, bibliographical control and information development.

Kay will be best remembered by LIASA members for the very dynamic and positive role she performed for LISDESA in Durban in 1995, ULIS-1 in Johannesburg in 1996 and ULIS-2 in Pretoria in 1997. She is also a member of LIASA and has been an integral force in this organisation since its inception.



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LIASA is pleased to announce that the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has approved a grant of \$250 000 to the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (USA) for use over a period of three years, in support of the South African Library Leadership Project. The Project, initiated by the Mortenson Center for International Library Programmes, University of Illinois and the Gauteng and Environs Library Consortium (GAELIC), is now partnered by the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) and the Mortenson Center.

The primary and distinct goal of the Project is to develop leadership qualities in current and future managers of academic, public/community, and national library services. The other objectives are:

- To refine communication and advocacy skills
- To highlight current best practices in the management of library services
- To learn about change management and organisational structures.

Participants will also develop their IT skills as a tool in the LIS field and enhance their training and presentation skills.

Between 2002 and 2003, eighteen library professionals will be selected for this Programme, nine in each round. The first round will focus on managers who have demonstrated their vision for the future of the profession in South Africa and are actively working in innovative ways to improve library services in the country. The second round will encourage applications from professionals who are not yet managers but are poised to move into these

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY LEADERSHIP PROJECT (SALLP)

positions.

The Programme is for a two-year period, as follows:

- *Phase 1* (under the guidance of LIASA)
  - Orientation in South Africa
  - Pre-departure project
- *Phase 2* (under the guidance of the Mortenson Center and LIASA)
  - Six-week training at the Mortenson Center, USA
- *Phase 3* (under the guidance of LIASA and beginning immediately upon return)
  - Participate in LIASA annual conference
  - Deliver a series of workshops in South Africa
  - Submit an article to a professional journal
  - Participate in a LIASA committee activity.

A Governing Committee appointed by LIASA manages the Project, which

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## PRESIDENT'S AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMNS

Due to the IFLA Conference in Boston, USA, from 18 to 25 August 2001, the President's and Executive Director's Columns are being held over. Ellen Tise (President) and Gwenda Thomas (Executive Director) are part of a small number of South Africans who will attend the IFLA Conference.

## ADVERTISEMENT RATES AND SIZES: 2001

SIZES, INSERTS & SPONSORSHIPS	FULL COLOUR	SPOT COLOUR (x3)	SPOT COLOUR (x2)	SPOT COLOUR (x1)	BLACK
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Half page (125 X 90mm)	R. 1 000	R. 910	R. 770	R. 610	R. 450
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Small	R. 1,00 per word				
Inserts	R. 500 (plus R100,00 for handling costs) = R. 600				
Sponsoring of page	R. 200 per page (name and telephone number of sponsor)				

### PUBLICATION FREQUENCIES AND CLOSING DATES

The LIASA-in-Touch Newsletter is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. The closing date for ads that require typesetting is the 7<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Copy ready ads are accepted until the 21<sup>st</sup> of the preceding month.



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Book Forum). IBBY administers such international awards as the Hans Christian Andersen Awards and the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award.

There is an IBBY Congress every second year, which is hosted by one of the IBBY national sections. South Africa will be hosting the 29<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress in 2004 in Cape Town. This will be the first ever IBBY Congress in Africa.

Details of the full programme and registration fee will be available in September 2002. A free advance brochure is available from the office at telephone number (021) 532-0555 or e-mail: [sacbf@worldonline.co.za](mailto:sacbf@worldonline.co.za)

IBBY CONGRESS 2004  
Cape Town, South Africa  
5 - 9 September 2004  
Theme: Books for Africa

The International Board on Books for Young People, IBBY, is the world body on children's literature. Over sixty countries have national sections of IBBY. South Africa was admitted as a member in 1992 and is represented by the SACBF (The South African Children's

### IRSL Conference

The final programme of the biennial conference of the IRSL (International Research Society for Children's Literature) that is taking place in South Africa from 20-24 August is taking shape and will be finalized within the next week. This is the first time that a congress of such international stature in children's literature will be held on the African continent. More than 60 experts in the field from all over the globe will be delivering papers on various aspects of children's literature.

The organisers are delighted that a few very special South African children's books will be launched during the conference: *My mother hates television* by Lesley Beake; *Yebo, Jamela!* by Niki

Daly; *The Waterbearer* by Dianne Hofmeyr and *Nozincwadi - Mother of Books* by Gcina Mhlophe.

The organizers were also able to negotiate with Klein Kariba, the resort where the conference will take place, a special tariff for South African delegates. South Africans can attend the conference for R1 900. This includes the registration, accommodation in single rooms in the chalets, all meals and social functions. Transport to and from Johannesburg International Airport will be R350 extra.

For more information about the conference, the preliminary programme, registration form, etc go to:

[www.unisa.ac.za/dept/crlu/irslconf.htm](http://www.unisa.ac.za/dept/crlu/irslconf.htm)  
[VDWALTB@unisa.ac.za](mailto:VDWALTB@unisa.ac.za)

# NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK ACTIVITIES

National Library Week was celebrated throughout the country from 14 to 25 May 2001. The theme was *African Renaissance through Libraries*.

Here follows an overview of some of the activities at libraries all over the country:

## Walking the Book at National Library

Being able to read and enjoy books can bring magic into one's life. Books can offer an escape from the mundane, an experience in learning and imagination or simply a means to relax. The Cape Town campus of the National Library of South Africa celebrated National Library Week with the *Walking the Book* exhibition from May 14 to July 27.

The exhibition presented a window on how the book developed and what significance it has in our daily lives. Visitors to the octagonal gallery next to the Internet Café in Queen Victoria Street could delve into this magic world through ancient books that have been carefully and lovingly preserved as well as books hot off the press. They could then view the exhibition's virtual site on the National Library's website <http://www.nlsa.ac.za/exhib/>, with fascinating further insights in the topic.

From books more than a 1000 years old to an artist's book made in the year 2000, the exhibition revealed a path of written and spoken words that link us to our history and defines who we are. Telephone booths, famous recordings, an incubator and a cow were just some of the elements that surprised visitors.

## National Library Week Continued from p8

She was followed by Gwenda Thomas, LIASA Executive Director, who explained the vision and way forward of LIASA. The open day was held in the National Library's hall and an exhibition of the key functions could be viewed. This was a good opportunity for visitors to network and meet the project leaders and managers of the National Library personally.

## Gauteng North Bookworm Feast

LIASA Gauteng North held a bookworm feast for its members on 16 May at the National Zoological Garden in Pretoria. The main speaker was Mandla Maseko, project manager of the Masifunde Sonke campaign. He spoke about the importance of building a culture of reading for education, fun and pleasure.

Deaf artist Tommy Motswai, who designed the Masifunde Sonke poster, also attended the bookworm feast together with his sign language interpreter Cara Loening. He was besieged by eager fans who wanted him to autograph their Masifunde posters.

Van Schaiks and Fascination Books had a display of their stock in the hall. Both booksellers generously sponsored a number of book prizes which were distributed in a lucky draw, and this proved very popular. In addition, Gauteng North branch sponsored three LIASA memberships for the lucky draw.

## Tshwane Community Libraries

As part of the advocacy drive City of Tshwane councillors were invited to

visit the Community Libraries. Different programmes to promote books and reading were presented, especially for young children and senior citizens. People were also allowed to return their books without being fined for overdue books.

## Medunsa Library

At Medunsa, an African display was mounted in the library. The ornaments got a lot of attention and created an awareness of their heritage among students. With the fine-free week many books were returned. Users who returned lost books were rewarded with diaries, caps, rulers, and other Library Week-related freebies.

## African Renaissance

At the Government Communication and Information system, an African Renaissance exhibition was mounted. The exhibition together with the OPAC system was launched at the beginning of the second week Library Week and was well attended, many people visiting the library for the first time. The aim was to create an awareness of e-journals, complemented with books to use.

## Esther Sibanyoni

Esther Sibanyoni, a trustee of the Patience Maisela Fund, well-known community figure and communication officer at the National Library, was invited by the Education Department to have a live discussion on the radio about readership and the purpose of Library Week. Questions from listeners were answered and pleas for help were attended to. She was also invited by

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# INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND RURAL LIBRARIANSHIP

## LIASA NORTHERN PROVINCE BRANCH CONFERENCE

7 - 8 JUNE 2001: M J GATEWAY CONFERENCE CENTRE, PIETERSBURG

The LIASA Northern Province Branch held a two-day conference on "Indigenous knowledge systems and rural librarianship". The conference was held on 7 - 8 June 2001 at the M J Gateway Conference Centre in Pietersburg. Attendants came from all over South Africa, with delegates from all the provinces. Mrs Schofield, a councillor in the Polokwane Municipality, welcomed the delegates. The official opening was done by the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Ms Rosina Semenya. In her speech she mentioned that she appreciated the role LIASA Northern Province Branch plays in the province and the co-operation between the Association and the Provincial Library Services.

Prof G M Nkondo presented the keynote address. He talked about key features of the African coalition, afro- pessimism and its features. He indicated that the African continent is rooted in our dependence on other continents. He stressed that we need to establish our own systems. We need to deepen our acknowledgement that indigenous knowledge systems will provide access to understanding Africanness. He then indicated that the African Renaissance could be built using IKS. What needs to be done to encourage the African identity is:

- encourage more research on IKS by Africans

- encourage the use of African languages in our libraries
- encourage the use of orality
- introduce afro-centric items in African languages on the internet and in international media
- libraries should inculcate the value of knowledge
- libraries should be part of integrated rural strategies

Dr M J Mashimbye gave an overview of research and reports available on IKS in the country. He encouraged librarians to acquire the reports so that people can be informed of developments in IKS. He also touched on the sharing of indigenous knowledge and legal implications arising from that sharing. He asked if such knowledge is recognised? What benefits do they get out of that sharing? Are they informed of the impact of their sharing?

Ms M- E Mphahlele highlighted issues such as IKS and sustainable development, IKS and western knowledge systems (WKS) as national resources. She also talked about the information exchange and orality, and improving access to IKS, recruitment and training of information professionals in relation to IKS. Emphasis was placed on the inclusion of

Continued on p12

**Indigenous knowledge systems  
Continued from p11**

IKS as part of the curriculum for information professionals.

Mr Otsile Ntsoane defined what indigenous people are, and what indigenous knowledge is. He defined indigenous knowledge as, "that knowledge that is held and used by people who identify themselves as indigenous of a place on a combination of cultural distinctiveness and prior territorial occupancy relative to a more recently arrived population with its own distinct and subsequently dominant culture." An elaborate discussion followed the idea whether indigenous knowledge needs to be protected. He then talked about what South Africa has done in IKS and mentioned the following:

- CSIR Research into indigenous technologies
- Mafikeng IKS National Workshop, 1998
- Collaboration of all Science Councils, 1999
- The establishment of IKS centres
- The establishment of IKS degrees in the North West University, 2001
- Public hearing by Portfolio Committee - Redrafting process
- Geneva representation, 1999
- SADC Regional Conference, 2001

Mr Maponya talked about IKS in education. He indicated the various ways in which one could say WKS is based on IKS and about bringing the IKS into the curricula based on outcomes-based education which indicates clearly the relationship between WKS and IKS. He gave examples of the learning areas and how

**Continued on p13**

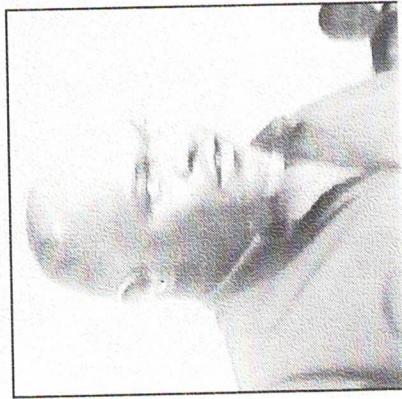


*Vice-chancellor and Principal:  
University of Venda for Science and  
Technology, Prof. G M Mkondo  
(Keynote Speaker)*



*Prof. Taban lo Liyong, Director, Eskia  
Mphahlele Centre for African Studies,  
University of Venda for Science and  
Technology (Guest Speaker)*

**Indigenous knowledge systems  
Continued from p12**



*Mr M.M. Mulaudzi, Director, M.P.  
Library & Heritage Services*

they can be related to indigenous knowledge. He indicated that we should acknowledge wisdom and knowledge as embodied in the indigenous. In promoting the use of IKS the following need to be done:

- Learning and support material developed should promote the marriage of IKS and WKS
- Focus of learning areas — areas of knowledge should reflect a balance of the two, for example the indigenous technologies
- Educators should recognise the different backgrounds of their learners and play the role of mediators
- Publishers and libraries have a crucial role to play in maintaining the balancing act

Prof Taban lo Liyong mentioned that in South Africa, the European culture has dominated Indian and Black cultures even though the numbers of people are very large. The majority of the people had their culture down-rated. He indicated that developing and improving African studies centres should be

developed and also the placing of IKS properly where it belongs, namely in our tertiary institutions. Libraries should also collect all materials on indigenous knowledge about the groups of people using the library. Libraries should take the lead to enable researchers to research, add and create knowledge.

Mr J K Tsebe was the only speaker on rural librarianship. He talked about realities identified in rural areas, such as, poverty and unemployment. He indicated that libraries should be part of government initiatives to develop rural areas. Libraries need therefore to be part of the Integrated Rural Strategy. Focus should be placed on the following to develop rural areas:

- building strong local government
- improving services to farmers and entrepreneurs
- building social and environmental sustainability
- building rural infrastructure
- education, training and capacity building
- promoting good planning based on good information
- fair and equitable framework

He indicated that LIS in rural areas is faced with the following challenges and opportunities:

- Providing dynamic leadership
- Transforming, developing and sustaining
- Advocating equitable provision of information

He then made the following proposals:

- establishment of LIASA rural librarianship interest group — linkage with SADC colleagues
- education and training specially in rural librarianship - academic centres for rural LIS studies

**Continued on p17**

**National Library Week  
Continued from p9**

the Community Library to serve as a role model for the television project Tin Can. People are still phoning her at home and work for advice.

**E-books and fun run**

The Technikon Pretoria launched the African Digital Library (the e-book interface at <http://lib.techpta.ac.za> /ebooks). In the main library there were exhibits from various dealers and lecturers could recommend books to be bought. On Saturday 19 May a Library

Week Fun Run was held in the Technikon's beautiful gardens. The 120 competitors each won a medal stamped with the Masifunde Sonke logo.

**Rustenburg Public Library**

Rustenburg Public Library celebrated Library Week by presenting several activities, such as competitions, book displays and a fine free month. The adult section hosted two word puzzle competitions with a local bookstore sponsoring the book prizes.

The children's section presented a drawing competition for the nursery schools. This competition was designed to encourage the teachers to read to the children in the classrooms. Book prizes were awarded to the schools as well as to the children. The North West Provincial Library Services donated bookmarks and happy buttons to all the children that participated.

Local businesses participated by putting up displays, such as a needlework display, by a local hobby shop.

Demonstrations were given through out the week.

**Western Cape Branch**

LIASA (Western Cape) celebrated the launch of National Library Week with a breakfast at Bellville Public Library on 9 May. The launch was a true reflection of this year's theme "African Renaissance through Libraries". Not only was the keynote speaker the renowned author, Prof Njabulo Ndebele, the Vice Chancellor of University of Cape Town, but also there was a uniquely African surprise when an imbhongi appeared and sang the praises of libraries! (see poem at the end of this article)

In his keynote address, Prof Ndebele said that library services for children and young people were a major national asset and a tremendous resource in supporting children's reading needs and educational development. Libraries were both the tools and terrain in the struggle against illiteracy.

If our aspirations for a better-educated society were to be fully realised, emphasis needed to be placed on the acquisition of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). This was crucial to developing the skills of young people and providing them with access to information they required for educational and recreational purposes. Africa needed to use ICT to develop appropriate, effective and workable solutions to bridging the growing information gap between developing and developed countries.

Prof Ndebele said that he was very fascinated to learn that our present

**Continued on p19**



*Veronica Ledikwa (Senior Library Assistant, Rustenburg Public Library), Ofentse Soke (prize winner) and Diane Reynecke from Fascination Bookstore*



**Mokgosi Senior Primary's Vryburg area performing the Library Week Song**



**Some of the teachers and scholars at the Mokgosi Senior Primary School**

## SA Leadership Project Continued from p5

comprises of 15 members who represent key LIS constituencies within the framework of the Project.

A Project Co-ordinator, Ms. Ujala Satgoor, has been appointed and she joined the LIASA National office on June 18, 2001. She has relocated from Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal and will be based in Pretoria for the next three years. Her qualifications include a BA(Hons) from the University of Durban-Westville and the Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science from the University of Cape Town. She has worked as a Librarian at the Don Africana Library, Durban and was responsible for setting up the library attached to the Cultural Centre of the Consulate General of India, Durban. Continuing Education and the need to redefine LIS in South Africa are of particular interest to Ujala and she is certain that this groundbreaking Project will allow professionals to articulate their vision for LIS in South Africa.

The Project will be formally launched at the LIASA annual conference in September 2001. Ujala and representatives from the Mortenson Center will be available to meet with interested persons at the Conference.

Application forms will be available from September 03, 2001 and the closing date for applications is October 12, 2001. For further information, please contact:

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## Library quotes

"An intelligent person is not necessarily one who knows the answers but rather knows where to find them."  
\* \* \*

"When you absolutely positively have to know, ask a librarian."  
\* \* \*

"To read a book for the first time is to make an acquaintance with a new friend; to read it for a second time is to meet an old one."  
Chinese saying  
\* \* \*

"Steal not this book, for fear or shame, For it is in the owner's name; And when you are dead, the Lord will say, 'Where is that book you stole away?'"  
Book Inscription  
\* \* \*

"To maintain a public library in fact, the librarian should buy three copies of each book: the first to show, the second to loan, and the third to read."  
\* \* \*

Nutrimentum spiritus. (Food for the soul.) Inscription on the Berlin Royal Library.  
\* \* \*

"The medicine chest of the soul." Inscription over the door of the Library at Thebes.  
\* \* \*

"A room without books is like a body without a soul."  
Cicero

## Indigenous knowledge systems Continued from p13

The debates that followed the different presentations indicated the following steps to be taken regarding the way forward:

1. A need for further discussions on IKS and rural librarianship
2. Libraries to make provision for acquiring IKS material in various formats
3. IKS centres being started in different academic institutions
4. Curriculum to incorporate IKS
5. Proposal for LIASA to start an interest group on rural librarianship
6. Libraries to be involved in Integrated Rural Strategies programmes
6. The papers presented to be send to participants

Mrs J T Makhafole closed by giving a summary of the conference proceedings.

**Compiled by J T Makhafole**  
\*\*\*\*\*

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## CULTURE OF READING PROMOTED IN EDENVALE

During the past year Edenvale Community Library has promoted a culture of reading by presenting a variety of Educational Development Programmes at informal service points in Thiteng (Tembisa West) and Phomolong. Programmes are presented on a weekly basis at both venues. Halls are converted into makeshift libraries for the duration of the programmes.

Special focus was placed on reading through a Tree of Knowledge competition and Readathon outreach programmes. International Book day was also celebrated. At the main Library in Edenvale, School Tours and Story Hours were conducted.

The Tree of Knowledge competition was run over a period of six weeks. Each child was handed a leaf to stick onto the Tree of Knowledge for each week that he or she attended the programme over the six-week period. At the end of the six weeks, the children who had attended the programme for the duration received certificates, together with a prize.

During our Readathon Celebrations a creative writing competition was held. Children were invited to submit stories. All the entries were displayed at the main Library in Edenvale. All the children who submitted stories were rewarded.

At the main Library in Edenvale, Nursery Schools attended story hours presented by the staff. Four successful Educational School tours were also conducted.



# THE BRITISH LIBRARY

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Email: [rone@cdrom.co.za](mailto:rone@cdrom.co.za)

PO Box 912-1481 Silverton,  
0127 South Africa



or visit the CD-ROM Information stand at the  
LIASA Conference & Exhibition

ref: L5ASEP2

## 40 years of document supply

### National Library Week Continued from p14

leaders had actively appreciated the enduring value of the library even during the "struggle" era. Wherever the ANC set up a school or camp, space was always provided and set aside for a library. Libraries and books had been recognised as playing an important role in the struggle and it was perhaps time that this should be refreshed in government's memory because libraries and books should continue to be an integral component against the new struggle against poverty, illiteracy and HIV/AIDS.

For the full text of Prof Ndebele's keynote address, point your browser at <http://www.imagnet.co.za/liasa/launch.rtf>.

No one went away empty handed from the launch. Posters for the National Library Week were distributed. There were six lucky draws for book prizes and everyone who attended was given a Library Week bag full of goodies.

### Somerset West Library

The Friends of the Somerset West and Helderzicht Public Libraries held a Book Fair on the Saturday of Library Week. This is the second year of the Book Fair, where stalls are let to booksellers and traders in things related to books and reading, such as book stands and gift cards.

Publicity was made for the Fair together with the publicity for Library Week, but also separately, in the form of flyers and items in the *District Mail* and community newspapers. Stallholders generally expressed themselves

satisfied with the sales they made on the day and a tidy sum was collected for the Friends.

### Milnerton Library

The "Have Fun for Literacy" fun run/walk event (19 May 2001), hosted by the Milnerton Library and sponsored by the Blaauwberg Tourism Bureau (BTB) turned into a roaring success.

More than 400 people participated in the event and thanks to the generous sponsors, the library had been able to present winners and teams with more than 35 prizes at the prize-giving ceremony. The first male and female prizes of R350.00 in the different categories, as well as the first team prizes of R600.00 were sponsored by the BTB. The Milnerton Library team also handed out spot prizes along the route that makes the run/walk event even more fun.

It was a real family day and quite a number of families in the community entered as teams. While parents were running / walking, their kiddies had the opportunity to enjoy themselves on the jumping castles and slide. Residents of Cheshire Homes in wheelchairs, school groups, professional athletes, service organisation teams and individuals also took part in the 10km run/walk or 5 km walk. One resident of Cheshire Homes finished the 5km distance in his wheelchair, but what made it so spectacular is the fact that he did the whole distance in reverse. The Milnerton Library ABET group also entered for the 10 km walk, "to say thank you to the community for helping us to learn".

Continued on p20

### National Library Week Continued from p19

The event also coincided with a high quality craft market, which attracted 70 crafters. The Fire Dept of the Blaauwberg Administration did a fascinating rescue demonstration with an old car wreckage.

Through this event, a whopping R15 000.00 was raised for the library's Adult Basic Education drive. Adults from previously disadvantaged areas such as Joe Slovo and Du Noon are attending literacy and life skill classes at the library and the money will certainly help the library to continue with the project. The proceeds of the day will also help to upgrade the library's literacy computers and Adult Basic Education software packages from level 1 and 2 to level 3, as well as for the Basic communication course for the youth in the community.

The support from the community was overwhelming and there are already plans in the pipeline for the next event in 2002. An in-house display of all the sponsors who assisted in making the event such a great day had been accommodated by the library for the following few weeks. The library wishes to thank their main sponsor, Blaauwberg Tourism Bureau, who understood the significance of their outreach projects.

### University of Western Cape

The University of the Western Cape (UWC) Library showcased their brand new library web site to the campus community as the highlight of the National Library Week.

The Week's activities included speakers, mini-tours, music, book sales, praise singing and a competition. It was also amnesty week for most overdue items, which was good news for cash-strapped students and absent-minded lecturers!

Anthea Carolus, Chairperson of the Black Arts Collection was one of speakers. She has also written a tragedy, *Insignificant Others*. She urged students to cultivate a culture of reading and writing. "Read, read," urged Carolus, "and then, write what you feel. Don't write just to have it published."

Other speakers included Keith Gottschalk from Political Studies. "Academics can use reading as a teaching tactic," said Gottschalk. "They can make reading a criterion for passing essays and other course work, get undergraduates to find articles in journals, to find books themselves, beyond any prescribed reading lists."

The Library Week competition was a search for an innovative name for the newly launched Library website. Student N Sithole was the prizewinner.

"The introduction of the library web site at UWC is a very exciting development for the Library and the University," says Head of Library, Ellen Tise. "It's long overdue. Now users can benefit from the wealth of information made possible through rapid technological advances and publishing of electronic material."

The UWC Library web site will offer users:

- Navigation of the library's printed and electronic resources via the Online Catalogue *Bush Buzz*
- Access to the Library's electronic

**Continued on p21**

### National Library Week Continued from p20

full-text journals

- Access to the Library's electronic books
- Access to other information resources at other libraries and institutions
- General information about the Library
- Facilities and services offered by the Library.

### University of Cape Town

UCT Libraries had a number of activities which included amnesty on overdue fines, Africa's 100 Best Books Project, test-driving of the new Information Kiosk on level 4, listing special lectures, training sessions and general public alerts.

A week-long amnesty on fines was permitted so that users can return any embarrassingly overdue books without fear of consequences (except for Short Loan, of course). This was a "never-before, never-again" event, so borrowers were urged to take advantage of it.

As far as the 100 Best Books was concerned, the Main Library alone received some 347 responses and the top books were:

Steve Biko, *I write what I like* x35  
Nelson Mandela, *Long walk to freedom* x25  
Chimua Achebe, *Things fall apart* x25  
Alan Paton, *Cry the beloved country* x20  
Bessie Head, *Maru* x13

The library also screened some videos in the foyer, which generated considerable student enthusiasm and led to a study for the possibility of having CNN in the foyer.

The Main Library also test ran the Information Kiosk during Library Week and used it as basis for generating book draw entries. Tanya Barben's tour of Rare Books generated queries about the sci-fi collection and some enthusiastic responses from the students who attended her presentation of special books.

### Song composed for library week

Mokgosi Senior Primary school can be very proud of Ms LM Sammone, NE Tshikane, NW Moroka, GM Mosenthal and KG Mereekae. They specially composed two songs and wrote the lyrics for both to commemorate National Library Week at the primary school celebrations that were held on 14 May 2001 in Vryburg. This was no mean feat as they composed the song in 30 minutes and only had six days to teach the sixty strong voice choir to perform it to perfection. Needless to say they brought the house down on the day!

It must be stated that Mokgosi Senior Primary's choir went on to win second place in the Vryburg District Choir Competition, first place in the Region and fourth place in the Provincial competition. No lightweights they are!

The words of the song are included in both Setswana (the original words) and English translated version at the end of this report.

**Continued on p22**

## National Library Week Continued from p21

Rona Ma-Afrika: a re buiseng  
Liborari (x3), Motswedi wa thuto gonne;  
Ka go buisa, re bona lesedi  
Lesedi (x3); Lebone la thuto.  
Le bala koranta; le di makasine; Komiki  
Tstotlhe di bothokwa.

Rona ba Mokgosi; rona re a itse  
Mosola (x3), mosola wa thuto.

\*\*\*

We Africans; let us read  
We know that the library is the source  
of education and learning  
When we read, we are enlightened  
We seek the light of education

We read newspapers, magazines, books  
and comics  
And all these are important

We at Mokgosi acknowledge  
the importance of reading.

## BRAVE DECISION

*What a decision  
What a brave decision  
The young lions have taken*  
*What a clever decision  
That young people have to take  
Authentic, supernatural and brave decision*

*Its bravery not bribery  
To learn  
Its bravery not bribery  
To be educated  
Its bravery not bribery  
To read*

*Make use of library services*

Poem by Zolani Kupe  
(presented at the Western Cape Library  
Week Launch 9 May 2001)

## BOOKWORM WORKSHOP



Miemie du Plessis and Leon de Villiers,  
at the children's reading workshop in  
Rustenburg.

Rustenburg Public Library hosted a one-day workshop on 24 July 2001, for both adults and young teenagers. The first part of the workshop focused on good story telling techniques and the importance of reading for children. This was presented by Dulinda Pieters from Enter Active Productions cc and Miemie du Plessis, Children's Book Publisher from Lapa Publishers. Teachers, librarians and mothers attended this workshop that was filled with tips of how to transform your child into a bookworm. Miemie stressed that it is important to set an example to children. Adults must read where children can see them. Show them that you are enthusiastic about reading! She encouraged all to take their children to their library and let them participate in activities such as story hours and holiday programmes.

Together with Dulinda Miemie encouraged story telling at home and in the classroom. They gave practical tips on how to make story telling both attractive and educational for the child. They kept the audience attention with a reading out of "Babalela" and everybody was rushing to the library afterwards to hear what happened to this strange character. She also stressed that the television is not necessarily at threat; encourage children to read books about their favourite television programmes such as "Dawson's Creek", "Teletubbies", "Heidi" or "Liewe Heksie". Miemie also handed out reading lists to the delegates with tips and titles for books that are suitable for the different age groups.

The afternoon session focused on young teenagers. Well-known youth author, Leon de Villiers, shared his writing secrets with the teenagers. He

had them at his feet with all his witty remarks and energetic presentation. Miemie gave them some tips on writing a winning essay and they had the chance to evaluate a few essays according to the writing tips they received from the speakers.

Both sessions formed part of the Year of Reader activities of Rustenburg Public Library. The workshop for teenagers is now followed up by a writing competition for grade 6 to grade 8 pupils with prizes sponsored by Stimuzone Rustenburg (a computer course) and Lapa Publishers (books).

"Libraries are the 'Index to the World.'" **John Colton Dana** (1906)

"Be as careful of the books you read, as of the company you keep, for your habits and character will be as much influenced by the former as the latter." **Paxton Hood**

"Nobody graduated from a library, Nobody graduated without one."

## DAY OF THE BOOK

Comic by: Lazarus  
Mchomboye - grade 8

Desmond, don't come to me with ridiculous stories. I'm not interested in rumors, only solid facts.

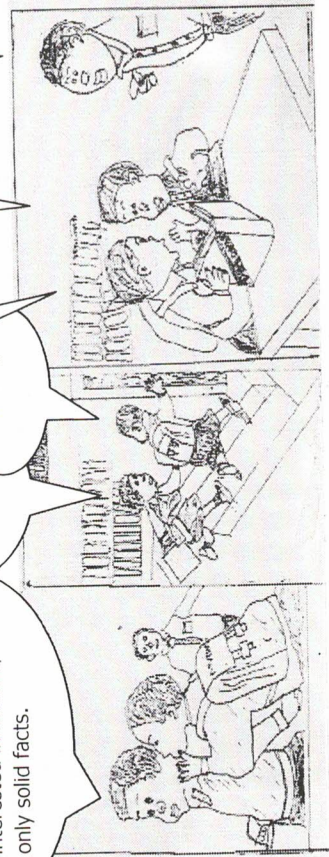
If you're so sure, prove it!

This way!

See? Cow is Spelt C O W.

OK, I'm convinced.

Yesterday was the Day of the Book. We can transform our lives by making books part of our day, every day!



## OBITUARY OF AZWIFARWI JOSEPH MULIDZWI

Mr Joseph (Joe) Mulidzwi was born at Tshidimbini (Venda in the Northern Province) on the 1st January 1963. He matriculated at Mbilwi High School. After he completed his matric, he registered at the University of the North, where he completed his degree in Library and Information Science (B.BibI) (1988). He thereafter completed his B.BibI(Hons) (1989) at the University of Cape Town, MA Information Science (1996) at the University of Pretoria and Management Development Programme (MDP) certificate at UNISA. In 1998 he spend 10 weeks as an intern at Highline Community College in Seattle, Washington and Washington DC.

Mr Mulidzwi started his career as a librarian at the National Library in the former Venda homeland (1990-1992). He later joined the University of Venda as a Law Librarian, where he was also a part-time lecturer (1992-1994). Mr Mulidzwi thereafter joined the Medical University of Southern Africa (MEDUNSA) library as Head of the Media Centre (1994-1996), before he was appointed Director: Information Resource Management at GCIS in July 1999.

Whilst at the university he was actively involved in student organizations such as the Student Union for Christian Association (SUCA). He was actively involved and a leader in the Library and Information Science Profession. He served as secretary of the last council of the African Library Association of South Africa (ALASA) and played a prominent role in the unification process of the Profession. In 1998 he



*Mr Joe Mulidzwi (1963 - 2001)*

was the Treasurer of LIASA Gauteng Branch. He was for a long time a deacon at the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa (Gooldeville congregation), where he was also involved in several committees. At the time of his death he was in the leadership of the Tower of Grace Worship Centre in Pretoria.

He passed away on the 7th July 2001 after being ill. He leaves behind, his wife Thandi, two sons and a daughter, his mother, one brother, and two sisters.

May his soul rest in peace.



## ADVOCACY WORKSHOP: PERSUASION AND NEGOTIATION

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2001, LIASA Gauteng North Branch had an opportunity to listen to Dr Simon Sauer, one of the experienced negotiators with a proven success record and is often consulted by worker's Unions. He extensively discussed issues around persuasion and negotiation, empowering the LIS workers in this area that has not received much attention in the past. The workshop took place at the Pretoria Public Library – Sammy Marks Square.

Thirty-nine delegates from various information sectors acquired a detailed background on negotiation and related issues such as:

- The bargaining power
- Various types of personal styles in negotiation and how to influence them towards a win-win situation.

Emphasis was placed on factors that contribute towards a successful negotiation process. Communicators who turn people off and different factors that can derail a negotiation process were also dealt with. Delegates were further taken through the steps involved in planning a negotiation process until the closure and agreement of a deal. This information session culminated with tips on how to apply pressure and how to handle pressure during negotiation. Negotiation skills and how they can be applied in various situations were discussed in depth.

This was a dynamic, informative and thought provoking information session.

*Segametsi Molawa*



## IN MEMORIAM: BETS NEL



*Bets Nel (1952 - 2001)*

Bets Nel passed away in July after a long illness. She was member of the Gauteng North Branch executive until ill health forced her to resign this year.

Bets was born on 25 March 1952. She obtained a BA in 1973 and the Higher Diploma in Library Science in 1975. She started work in the Unisa Library in January 1992. Bets will be remembered for her friendliness and service at the Unisa Library Information Desk, as well as for her participation in Gauteng North events, especially the Branch Spring Bash at Unisa in October last year.

The Branch executive extends sincere sympathy to her family, friends and colleagues.





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## 28 – 30 MARCH 2001, CIVIC CENTRE, RUSTENBURG

# REPORT ON THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INSTITUTE FOR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATORS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (IMASA)

The Editor in chief of *LIASA-in-Touch* attended the Third Conference of the Institute for Municipal Administrators of Southern Africa (IMASA) on behalf of LIASA from 28 to 30 March 2001 in Rustenburg. The city of Rustenburg is synonym with Sun City in the North West Province that is known for its abundant wildlife, sunny skies and mineral wealth. Conference delegates from all over the country as well as from overseas made full use of all the attractions that this part of the world could offer them.

The IMASA conference was held in the impressive Civic Centre in Rustenburg with its excellent venues such as a fully equipped multi-purpose auditorium, a city hall, an atrium (ideal for exhibitions and tea/coffee breaks), a banquet hall and a large bar area which can be used for delegates reception. There is also a well-equipped council chamber, several caucus rooms and a large basement parking area. It is planned to present the LIASA 2003 conference in this centre.

The conference started with a procession consisting of the Premier of the North West Province, Mr P S Molefe, the President of IMASA, Mr R van Vuren, and other distinguished guests. All the guests and delegates sang the National Anthem after which Reverend Kelber of Rustenburg opened the conference with scripture reading and prayer in three languages.

In his welcome address the President of IMASA, Mr Riaan van Vuren, said that the conference is taking place against

the background of restructuring and rationalisation at local level following the December 2000 municipal elections. He also said that it is challenging times for all involved, "...but especially for those responsible for administrative structures, policies and procedures as it is these activities that underpin political decision-making and service delivery".

The theme of the conference was "The role of municipal administration in the transformation of developmental local government".

### OPENING ADDRESS: PREMIER OF THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE, MR P S MOLEFE

In his address Mr Molefe said that the democratic structure in our country would to a large extent depend on the ability of Local Government to deal with the urgent needs of the communities they serve. It is therefore crucial that integrated development plans for effective and efficient service delivery be put in place.

Mr Molefe referred to the role municipalities can play towards nation building and said that Local Government "...being in a position not only to deliver quality services to the haves but also to the previously disadvantaged communities in both the urban and rural areas within their jurisdiction".

With reference to the demarcations, the Premier said that municipalities are also

Continued on p28

## IMASA Conference Continued from p27

facing challenges around new boundaries such as to service larger areas, to address infrastructure backlogs and to stimulate local economic development.

Mr Molefe said in conclusion that it is his wish that "...the deliberations and discussions you will have will go a long way in assisting our government and our people in finding innovative ways in improving the efficiency of the said structures".

Although it was not mentioned at the conference, one of the infrastructural backlogs that should be addressed by local authorities is the provision of libraries in less serviced and (mostly) remote areas.

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS: CHALLENGES FACING NEW AND AMALGAMATED MUNICIPALITIES AND HOW TO ADDRESS THEM (MR JOHAN LEIBBRANDT)

Mr Johan Leibbrandt CEO Kempton Park/Tembisa Metropolitan Local Council, started by pointing out that local government in general is characterised by: crippling cash flow problems; poor service delivery; skills shortages; limited community participation; decaying urban fabric; and infrastructural backlogs. He said that although some may argue that these problems are a result of the "culture of non-payment", the underlying reason for these problems is "...a lack of shared vision, inability to transform and innovate, reluctance to take tough decisions, inability to set internal performance/delivery standards and to enforce such standards, a lack of proactive planning, poor implementation and monitoring.

According to Mr Leibbrandt, the immediate task of local government is to "...ensure the effective amalgamation of staff, assets and budgets, and the integration of systems, whilst maintaining and improving service delivery and expanding infrastructure". With regard to the way forward, the speaker quoted our State President, Mr Thabo Mbeki, who said:

*"Our actions as local government should make an invaluable contribution to the important task of creating a humane society and a humane city where the local authorities work selflessly for the betterment of local communities where they fully understand that their responsibilities are to the people, and that they are every step of the way, accountable, sensitive and responsive to the needs of the people".*

Mr Leibbrandt pointed out that the transformation process is vested in a legal framework comprising of: Municipal Structures Act, 1998; Municipal Demarcation Act, 1998, the Municipal Systems Act 2000 as well as the Municipal Financial Management Act 2000 and the Municipal Service Partnerships Policy.

To address the transformational challenges, attention should be given to the following:

- Transformational leadership (Top management should encourage change, innovation, risk taking, pride in work and continuous improvement);
- Employee loyalty and commitment (It includes a complaint-friendly attitude towards customers); and
- The Integrated Development Planning (IDP) Process.

Continued on p30

## NASBOEK LITERARY PRIZE GIVING GALA EVENT

The five Naspers literary prizes for 2000, were awarded on 13 June 2001, at a gala evening, in the Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town, by the Chief Executive of Nasboek, Mr Helgaard Raubenheimer.

In his welcoming speech Mr Raubenheimer said that Nasboek's aim with these prizes is to encourage writers in all of the official languages and to build bridges between authors and readers. Even a renowned author such as Stephan King has, with his internet-publications, come to realize that the road to the reader and the bank does not run as smooth as he hoped it would, he added.

These prizes are awarded annually for works published during the previous year by the publishing houses within the Nasboek group (Tafelberg, Human & Rousseau, Kwela, Queillerie, Pharos, Sunbird, Van Schaik Publishers, Jonathan Ball, and Nasou Via Afrika).

The W.A. Hofmeyr Prize for the best Afrikaans literature book was awarded this year to Etienne van Heerden for *Die Swye van Mario Salviati* (Tafelberg). The book gives a spell binding review of several periods in the South African history including the era of the early pioneers, several wars, the ostrich period, the arrival of the Italian prisoners-of-war and present day South Africa.

The Recht Malan Prize for the best non-literary or non-fiction book published by a publishing house within the Nasboek group in 2000 went to *The wired model* by Greg Mills (Tafelberg). The book gives an incisive look into South Africa's

role in the 21st century. It amounts to a one man white paper on South African foreign policy in the new world order.

The M E R Prize for the best children's book or youth publication published by Nasboek's publishing houses, was awarded to *Geraamtes dra nie klere nie* by Jan Vermeulen (Tafelberg). The book deals with the trauma a family has to face when the father appears before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The members of the selection committee that adjudicated these three prizes were Dr Etienne Britz (convenor), Ms Marina le Roux and Mr Ebbe Dommissie.

The African Languages Literature Award in the Zulu category for best poetry went to *Imvunge Yasesandlwane* by P E M Nsele (Van Schaik Publishers). The book is an anthology of poems of different Zulu poets including poems from Nsele himself. The poems deal with everyday themes such as bravery, manhood, human degradation, spirituality and myths.

The adjudicators were Dr H.C. Groenewald, Prof N.S. Zulu and Mr Mafika Lubisi.

The Herman Charles Bosman Prize for English Literature was awarded for the fourth time this year. It went to Willemien Le Roux for *Shadow Bird* (Kwela). This gifted new writer's short stories eclipse almost anything ever written about the plight of the San people in their search for a place in the modern world.

The adjudicators were Dr Miki Flockermann (convenor) and Prof Hein Willemse.

The prizewinners each received R10 000 in cash and a certificate at the function.

### IMASA Conference Continued from p28

Mr Leibbrandt explained that the IDP is "...a principal strategic planning instrument which guides and informs all planning, budgeting, management and decision making in a municipality". To prepare an IDP is a legal requirement and it is therefore expected of all municipalities to determine its vision, objectives and strategies followed by the identification of projects to address the issues. The IDP constitutes the business plan of a local authority and should be developed for a five-year period.

As the IDP is a people driven process, community and stakeholder participation is essential. It should, according to the speaker, address the needs of the community "...in order to contribute towards the improvement of the quality of life". Mr Leibbrandt said in conclusion that there are loyal employees in local government who are committed to fully utilise the Integrated Development Planning Process for the betterment of all communities.

I would like to make one remark and that is that public/community librarians should ensure that the provision of library services is included when local authorities prepare the IDP. To achieve this, Public/community librarians should liaise with community organisations, ward Councillors, Council's Portfolio Committee responsible for community services, etc.

### OTHER SPEAKERS

The following speakers also addressed the conference delegates on the topics as indicated below:

1. Motivational speech: Mr Louw du Toit (Louw du Toit and Associates)
2. Towards enhancing integrated service delivery (Dr Manana Bakane-Tucane, Director General, Office of the Premier, North West)
3. The law and developmental local government (Prof Theo Scheepers, Centre for Community Law and Development, Potchefstroom University)

4. Land reformation and restitution (Adv Wallace Mgoqi, Land Claim Commission)
5. The developmental role of local government in new demarcated areas (Mr Prince Dlodla, Dlodla Development Planning Consultancy and member of the Municipal Demarcation Board)

### A COMPARISON BETWEEN LIASA AND IMASA

In the Third Annual Report of IMASA some interesting facts come forward in comparison with LIASA:

The total members of IMASA were at the end of February 2001 only 300. IMASA is an Institute for Southern Africa and recruit not only members at national level, but also from neighbouring countries. According to IMASA's Strategic Plan the goal was set to increase the membership each month with 5 %, but they couldn't achieve it. LIASA with a smaller membership base can be proud of its achievements in this regard as its current membership is nearly 1 600.

Other objectives of IMASA are *inter alia* the following:

### IMASA Conference Continued from p30

- (a) To promote effective and efficient municipal administration which includes the promotion of professionalism and higher ethical standards;
- (b) To promote appropriate training and development of members and prospective practitioners;
- (c) To create a dynamic branch structure through which IMASA can achieve its objectives;
- (d) To ensure communication with/feedback to members via regular newsletters and use of the website;
- (e) To prepare a communication policy and plan for IMASA;
- (f) To promote and maintain contact with international associations; and
- (g) To ensure recognition of IMASA as a professional institute nationally and internationally.

LIASA is also giving attention to the objectives indicated above. I am of the opinion that our Association should continue to interact with other professional bodies such as IMASA by delegating Council members to represent LIASA at their annual conferences. In this way we can learn from each other.

**Pieter Louw**  
Editor in chief

"The computer is only a fast idiot, it has no imagination; it cannot originate action. It is, and will remain, only a tool to man."

## ELECTRONIC INFORMATION FOR LIBRARIES (EIFL)

The EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries) Direct Project, an initiative between EBSCO Publishing and the Soros Foundation was launched in 2000.

Fortunately, the Department of Education has funded this project for South African Libraries for 2001, including Public Libraries. There was a very small response from Public Libraries in 2000, and libraries are urged to take advantage of this project for the remaining 6 months of this year.

The EIFL Direct project allows libraries to access over 5 000 journals electronically via the Internet. For those that do not have Internet access, CD Rom access is also provided.

To get Internet access goes to <http://search.global.epnet.com>. From there you will be prompted for an user ID and password. Use eifl as the user ID and botswana as the password. On the page that appears next, you can read more about the EIFL Direct Project, or register for access.

The two databases intended specifically for public libraries are Masterfile Premier and Newspaper Source, although you may decide to use Business Source Premier as well.

If you do not have Internet access, or simply need additional background information, Coleen Mills of EBSCO South Africa can be contacted at telephone no (011) 678 4416 or e-mail: [colmills@ebSCO.com](mailto:colmills@ebSCO.com).