



**19TH SCECSAL, Gaborone, Botswana
6-9 December, 2010**

South Africa

**COUNTRY REPORT
2008-2010**

Presented by

**Naomi Haasbroek
President
2010-2012**

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ANNUAL REPORT: OCTOBER 2008 TO SEPTEMBER 2010

1. INTRODUCTION

To facilitate the implementation of the Presidential theme "Reposition LIASA for growth and development" a summit was held in January 2009. The Executive Committee and Representative Council integrated the theme and outcomes of the Summit in the business and agendas of all structures. The outcomes of the Summit held early 2009 enabled us to re-evaluate and reposition our strategies in order to ensure that LIASA remain relevant and to add value within the sector.

It remains a major responsibility to lead such a dynamic and vibrant Association and to ensure that it gives direction to the profession on a national level. The responsibility as the official voice of the LIS sector in South Africa, a partner in Government in the national agenda for the growth and development of the nation, is demanding challenging and calls for action. The positive feedback on the first term of office in terms of the financial standing, training and initiatives inspired us to take on the second term, with more confidence, determination and drive in order to improve on the performance.

Therefore, it gives me pleasure to report that the Executive Committee and Representative Council delivered on their mandate and achieved what they set out to do at the beginning of the term. I would like to highlight specific achievements during the period under review and will also share with you some challenges faced by the Association.

2. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LIASA was led by the Representative Council and Executive Committee that be held various meetings which were well attended. The agendas were informed by the strategies adopted at the Summit and thanks to the commitment and passion displayed by the members; I was enabled to focus on our targets. I take this opportunity to thank them most sincerely for their support and the job well done.

NAME	PORTFOLIO
Executive Committee	
More, R	President
Haasbroek, N	President-Elect
Kitching, K	Treasurer
Henning, J	Secretary
Senyolo, R	PRO
Satgoor, U	GN Branch Chairperson / SC: Membership
Moropa, R	GN Branch Second Representative / SC: Constitutional matters
Hardy, N	WC Branch Chairperson / SC: Branch & Interest Groups
Van der Walt, F	Chairperson PACLIG / SC CEPD
Brink, H	Manager: LIASA Office
Goosen, A	Project Manager: CICD
Bampoe, E	NW Branch: Chair
Bekwa, P	GS Branch: Second Representative

Botha, M	Chairperson: LASIG
Boyes, M	KZN Branch: Second Representation
Davis, A	Chairperson: ILLIG
Davis, G	Chairperson: RETIG
Kotsokoane, N	Chairperson: HELIG
Ledwaba, L	Chairperson: LICT
Madiba, M	FS Branch: Second Representative
Mahlangu, N	GS Branch: Chairperson
Mckechnie, L	Chairperson: SSIG
Moeketsi, J	NW Branch: Second Representative
Mokhabukhi, S	L Branch: Chairperson
Mostert, E	Chairperson: LISLIG
Mvunelwa, J	EC Branch: Chairperson
Ngulube, P	SAJLIS
Ndhlovu, TC	L Branch: Second Representative
Niemand, M	Chairperson: SLYSIG
Ntombela, M	KZN Branch: Chairperson
Peter, Z	EC Branch: Second Representative
Raju, R	WC Branch: Second Representative
Ramugondo, R	FS Branch: Chairperson
Roux, M	LIASA-in Touch
Van Eeden, W	Chairperson: IGBIS

3. LIASA NATIONAL OFFICE

3.1 LIASA HOUSE

In July 2010, we celebrated the first year in LIASA House, our permanent home at the Pretoria Campus of the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) at 228 Proes Street Pretoria. The LIASA National Office moved to the National Library premises on the 13th July 2009. The staff and functions have settled in very well and most of the challenges related to a big move of such nature have been sorted out, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the office staff. The facilities are free of charge with LIASA having to meet its own operational costs. Furthermore, LIASA has benefited not only financially, but also from the partnership with the National Library to achieve its goals. The facilities were used well for meetings and functions, contributing to huge savings and enhanced functionality. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the National Library Board as well as our National Librarian for taking LIASA under its wings.

3.2 STAFFING

LIASA successfully recruited and appointed a new Office Manager in May 2010 on a three year contract. Ms Hannelie Brink, brings a wealth of experience in administration after the contract of Ms F Maritz expired. LIASA is in the process to recruit a Membership Administrative Officer.

Ms A Goosen continued to perform very well in her position as the Project Manager for CICD, the Carnegie Corporation funded training and development project, and her contract was renewed.

The commitment and hard work of the staff members is acknowledged and appreciated. They have made a huge difference to the operations of the Office in particular to the functioning of LIASA.

4. LIASA INDABA: OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

The outcomes of the major LIASA Indaba held on 30 January 2009 were integrated in the agendas and business of all structures of LIASA over the past two years. This ensured that the strategic directions were pursued and performance monitored on an ongoing basis. The main objective was to reposition LIASA for growth and development and the following strategies were identified and prioritised:

- Statutory Recognition;

- Membership and Branches;
- Funding;
- Marketing and PRO.

Task teams were established to develop implementation strategies, such as the statutory Recognition team which has progressed well towards achieving the targets set in this regards. Attention and developments on the membership databases, drives and recruitment have resulted in increased membership. Drives to ensure that the Association is financially viable included the establishment of the Presidents Fund as well as collaborations with sponsors.

5. FINANCES AND FUNDING

Audited Statements for the financial year 2009 has been distributed to members well in advance and a special question and answer session has been arranged to afford members an opportunity to scrutinise these and to engage with the Treasurer on these. I am pleased to report that LIASA's financial situation has improved over the last two years, thanks to the support and contributions of all its members and also the professional way office bearers have taken care of their responsibilities. The audit report was concluded with only 1 recommendation regarding the reconciliation of the membership fees.

5.1 GRANTS AND AWARDS

5.1.1 LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

LIASA continued to attract generous **grants from partners and donors**. The **LIASA** Librarian of the year award has become a very sought after and prestigious award. Sponsors continued to support this and the following was made available for 2010. UKS has sponsored R30 000-00 for the winner, EBSCO R20 000-00 for runner up and SABINET R10 000-00 for third prize. The competition was very steep and there was again an increase in nominations for the year to celebrate the achievements of colleagues in our profession. All finalists will be acknowledged during the Gala Dinner and the announcement of the 3 winners be done.

A generous sponsorship for the 2010 Gala Dinner and an international keynote speaker was secured with 3M. 3M is celebrating its 40th anniversary and expressed the wish to partner with LIASA even beyond the conference and South African Library Week 2011. A book voucher will be awarded to any librarian for a winning essay on how 3M Tattle Tapes have assisted libraries over the 40 years to secure books in libraries.

5.1.2 JUSTICE ALBIE SACHS FREEDOM AWARD

This new Award has been an exciting project for LIASA. The initial concept of the award was proposed by Clare Walker formerly of WITS University library. Together with Professor Archie Dick from Pretoria University the Awards Committee have worked on the criteria, the scope of the Award and the held negotiations with Justice Sachs.

He was honoured to have the award bear his name. The background to the origin of the award has been published in an article by Ms Walker in the July issue of LIASA-in-Touch. The Award was to honour the "unknown librarian" that Justice Sachs mentioned in his speech at the opening of the IFLA Conference in Durban in 2007. That "unknown librarian" had been instrumental in providing him with books during the period he spent in detention - a fact that he has never forgotten to this day.

The Award is a departure for LIASA whereby we are honouring South Africans who support the concept of freedom if access to information – it is a bold stand that we are taking and it shows that we have grown as an organisation when we are able to look beyond the boundaries of our Association and honour citizens who have made such meaningful contributions to our society in this area.

Justice Sachs asked us to organise a signing of his latest book "The Strange Alchemy between Life and Law" at the 2010 annual conference. The President Elect was able to arrange this through

Oxford University Press and Exclusive Books. Justice Sachs will be presenting the Freedom Award after his presentation to the Thursday morning session of conference.

The book signing session will take place during the lunch period on Thursday.

Ms Walker requested that the trophy presented be a piece of art work also to honour the association Justice Sachs has with the Constitutional Court Art Collection. A certificate will also be presented to the winner.

The Press have been advised of that Justice Sachs will be presenting this award so hopefully we will obtain publicity for the Award, the Winner and the Association as a result of his involvement with this award.

5.1.3 PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR BEST BRANCH

LIASA sponsors annually an award to the best Branch as well as the most improved Branch. All reports received from the Branches (8 of the 9 branches) were considered for these awards. The winner would receive an award of R5000-00 and a certificate. There is also an award for the Branch that made the most improvement (R1000-00 and certificate).

5.1.4 LOTTERY FUNDS

LIASA was awarded a grant of R642 000 from Lottery Fund during 2009 (half paid out in 2009 and the remainder in 2010). The funding is used to support the LIASA National Office infrastructure, the printing of the LIASA-in-Touch as well as the South African Journal of Library and Information Sciences, support for the conference as well as membership drive at Branches. The first payment and expenses has been concluded and we are awaiting the second payment.

5.1.5 DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE

LIASA has always been privileged to enjoy generous support from the Department of Arts and Culture. We received a total of R 493 645-00 towards the 2010 annual conference (R88 570-00 in support of invited international and local speakers, R105 075-00 for Audio Visual equipment and R300 000-00 to sponsor the attendance of 61 members to attend the conference).

The Department also sponsored the South African Library Week with R495 000-00. This generous sponsorship enabled LIASA to celebrate a SA Library Week with a truly national impact.

A sponsorship of R60 000-00 towards the IFLA Management of Libraries' Association Meeting in February 2010 was awarded. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Department of Arts and Culture for their continued support.

5.1.6 SABINET/LIASA TRAINING GRANT (CEPD)

SABINET has also provided a training grant of R 501, 000-00 for training of librarians during this period.

IGBIS presented a workshop in May 2010 and there were over 100 delegates attending, while ILLIG was having their workshop at the LIASA Annual Conference and almost 40 delegates attended the workshop called ". Are your customers satisfied?" A small amount of the grant is still unused.

5.1.7 CENTRE FOR INFORMATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York granted over a 3 year period totaled USD 500 000-00. LIASA is now nearing the end of the second year of the grant and the final allocation would be made in 2011. Generous support and sponsorship from the Carnegie Foundation (R 1, 7m) has

enabled the Unit to achieve its goals and to provide training for more than a 1000 library and information practitioners country wide.

5.2 PRESIDENTS' 1 MILLION FOR LIASA

As part of the strategy to reposition LIASA for growth and development and to improve the financial situation of LIASA and to ensure that the association remain financially viable, a special President's 1 Million for LIASA fund was established. The aim is to complement the funds from membership and grants from sponsors. The membership is mainly used towards the operational costs and salaries. Funding is needed for initiatives to the benefit of the members and to publish publications of a high standard. A good response to the invitation to contribute to the fund has resulted in a total of almost R100 000-00 in the Fund.

As this Executive Committee we are handing over to the new team with about R1 million rand in the accounts- we believe that although the President's million didn't reach the million mark we can say that under the Leadership of the President and the team that the LIASA accounts did reach the million R mark.

5.3 IFLA 2007 CONFERENCE

A surplus of R 272 241-49 generated from the IFLA 2007 Conference was transferred to LIASA. These funds will be utilised to fund young professionals to attend IFLA Conferences. The first recipient of this grant attended the IFLA Conference in Gothenburg in August 2010.

6. MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND RECRUITMENT

The Executive Committee for the term 2008-2010 has prioritised attention to this matter and good progress was made to address several of the problems identified by members. These included the backlog of unprocessed membership forms since 2008, and problems with data capturing and database management. Furthermore, LIASA is in the process of appointing a staff member with the sole responsibility of managing the membership database and related information and services to members. The following actions were put in place to improve the situation

6.1 System upgrade

An assessment of the membership databases was done and the Executive Committee supported a proposal to obtain the services of a professional consultant to assist with the database clean-up. The staff also received valuable training on the system to ensure optimal functionality and service/information to members. Thus far drastic changes have been made to the existing forms and the method of processing membership applications and renewals has been simplified.

The following steps have been taken to ensure that the database serves the purpose intended:

- The DBText software has been upgraded from version 8 to version 12
- The staff also received valuable training on the system to ensure optimal functionality and service/information to members.
- The membership database has been successfully divided into two databases. The one for new members (2009+) and the second as a LIASA membership archive
- The new database is now in place with a new, shortened structure (38 fields) which may be updated regularly.
- Names of institutions and other fields have been standardised, with validation and substitution lists in place to eliminate typing errors, spelling mistakes and inconsistencies.
- With the new database several forms can be created to comply with reports needed for the Executive Committee and branches. These forms will display up-to-date membership numbers, including new members and renewals. It will also include a financial report to indicate the institutional and individual memberships with short-falls where it applies.
- As with any export of data, some records were rejected by the system for various reasons. Each record has to be checked and corrected, which takes additional time
- This improved system will eliminate any potential for backlog problems.

6.2 Electronic Membership

In keeping with technological advances, LIASA has:

- Implemented an electronic membership registration form on the redesigned web-site which enables new member registrations as well as membership renewals to be done online.

6.3 Interest Group Membership

Interest Group Membership – this category of membership was abolished at the 2009 AGM held in Bloemfontein.

6.4 Three-month payment option

LIASA acknowledged the concerns that during the economic crunch the new fee of R350:00 for 2010 may pose a problem for certain members. A request was made by members to implement an installment payment system that will ensure that members can continue paying their membership fees and for LIASA to continue growing its membership base. Therefore the EXCO meeting held on February 16 2010 confirmed the Representative Council recommendation that the LIASA 2010 membership fee be made in 3 consecutive installments of R120.00, R120:00 and R110:00 respectively. The last payment was to be made by the end of June 2010 to ensure that all members are paid up before the start of the LIASA Conference and to ensure that the Conference organizers have a complete list of all paid up members. An assessment hereof will be made to determine the efficacy of this option so that it could be implemented on a regular basis. EXCO has decided at its meeting on 26 September to offer this option again for members and information would be distributed at the LIASA Office at conference and on listserv.

6.5 Membership Statistics (as at 22 September 2010)

MEMBERSHIP STATS	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	%age diff.
	New	Renewal	TOTAL	New	Renewal	TOTAL	
Foreign		4	4	1	3	4	
Eastern Cape	31	100	131	31	107	138	5.07
Free State	11	97	108	9	88	97	-11
Gauteng North	28	192	220	32	205	237	7.17
Gauteng South	56	128	184	23	178	201	8.45
Kwazulu Natal	22	128	150	18	142	160	6.25
Limpopo	15	48	63	8	65	73	13.6
Mpumalanga	35	41	76	2	28	30	-153.3
North West	11	43	54	10	62	72	25
Northern Cape	10	10	20	6	29	35	42.85
Western Cape	53	176	229	27	248	275	16.72
Total	272	967	1239	167	1155	1322	6.27

Membership fees paid in advance

2011	21
2012	15

Individual members	1194
Institutional	96
Pensioners + students + Unemployed	22
Honorary members	10

LIASA can only be as strong as its membership. We continue to urge members to renew and bring along new colleagues so that LIASA may be strengthened as the voice of information workers in South Africa.

7. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Regular communication with members remain a priority for LIASA to ensure the success, sustainability and growth of the Association. The following channels of communication with members are employed and we are also exploring information technologies to enhance communication. Social networking to facilitate two-way communication will play an important role to create channels for interaction with members.

7.1 LIASA-in-Touch

The LIASA-in-Touch continues to be a useful and extremely popular magazine with our members. It attracts many interesting and informative contributions from members. It has become a true show case of activities and achievements for the Association. It is published quarterly and the editor is Ms M Roux. Possibilities to distribute it electronically as an option to members (for members only view) are being investigated.

7.2 South African Journal of Libraries and Information Science

The South African Journal of Libraries and Information Science is the official research and accredited publication of LIASA. It is published twice a year and the editor is Prof P Ngulube.

7.3 LIASA Website

The LIASA Website at <http://www.liasa.org> serves as the most immediate communication tool with members, stakeholders and the broader library and information services community. Good progress was made to the enhancement of the website and to facilitate interactive communication for members. We are very proud to launch this updated site at the annual conference in 2010.

7.4 LIASA Listserv

The LIASA Listserv facilitates ongoing and prompt communication between members on a daily basis. To facilitate optimal use of this important communication tool and to ensure that it is not misused, the guidelines for publication was reviewed and approved.

7.5 SMS Service

In line with popular mobile technologies used to facilitate communication, the sms service will continue.

7.6 Media coverage

LIASA enjoyed valuable media coverage during the year. The South African Library Week and the annual conference received special coverage on radio stations, both regional and national. The PRO did an interview on Ikwekwezi FM on the 2010 conference on 26 September 2010. The President-Elect did an interview on SABC radio on access to libraries, the usage and the 2010 conference on 28 September 2010. At 22:30 on 28 September 2010, the PRO did an interview on Lesedi FM on how libraries operate, the procedures and general administration.

7.7 The campaign for the World Libraries

As a signatory to the "@ Your Library" campaign, members can use this to promote their services.

8. LIASA CONFERENCES

The 11th Annual LIASA Conference was held from 6-10 October 2008 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre with the theme: Looking Ahead: the changing role of libraries. A total of 724 full registrations and 69 day registrations were recorded. There were 38 full exhibitors and one NGO exhibit. The Department of Arts and Culture provided a generous sponsorship of

R500, 000.00. This sponsorship made it possible to support the attendance of 85 librarians and contributed towards the expenditure of invited speakers and audio-visual equipment. Swets Subscription Services also provided support for 3 librarians. Some challenges were experienced with regards to the collection of all registration fees and this resulted in a lengthy follow-up process of unpaid fees. This aspect of the responsibilities of the Professional Conference Organisers has to be carefully negotiated and managed in future.

The 12th Annual LIASA Conference was successfully hosted by the Free State Branch in Bloemfontein from 28 September to 2 October 2009 with the theme: Library and Information Services on the Move.

A Fundraising and Sponsorship manual was developed to provide guidance in particular with the raising of funds for the annual conference. It was decided that future conferences would be the responsibility of the Representative Council and Branches will be invited to bid to host. Conference attendance has grown rapidly and specific criteria will be applied to select the host.

Professional Conference Organisers would be appointed by the RC for at least a 5 year period to ensure a long-term relationship and to facilitate the organizing of the annual conference. This would be implemented from 2011 onwards.

9. SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY WEEK

South African Library week 2009 was celebrated 16-21 March 2009 with the theme "Access for all @ your library". The KwaZulu-Natal branch had the honour of hosting the national launch on the 14 March at the Msunduzi Library (Bessie Head Library), Pietermaritzburg. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Pallo Jordan, Minister of Arts and Culture. The Department of Arts & Culture continued to support and sponsor the SALW.

The South African Library Week was celebrated from 20 - 27 March 2010. LIASA, in partnership with The Department of Arts and Culture as well as other leading stakeholders in the industry, hosted a national launch, library week celebrations and a special month long campaign with the theme "**Every child a book**". The Launch took place at the National Library in Tshwane on 20 March 2010, which is also the celebration of the birth of libraries in South Africa. The first Public Library, now known as the National Library of South Africa (Cape Town Campus), was established on 20 March 1818.

The SALW theme, "**Reading changes lives**" encourages a culture of reading and raises awareness about the benefits of reading. The theme expresses how reading opens up new worlds and new opportunities. Reading can be inspirational, educational, entertaining, escapist, developmental and fun. The generous sponsorships and valuable partnerships supported the celebrations that took place in various libraries and sectors on a national level. This campaign highlighted libraries, books and reading with maximum national impact.

As part of the celebrations LIASA launched a month long campaign "**Every child a book**" which was concluded on World Book Day on 23 April 2010. This (WBD) was celebrated in partnership with the National Library: Centre for the Book unit in Bloemfontein on 22 (with the door to door campaign) and a celebration on 23 April 2010. This emphasised the importance of developing a reading nation and will enhance access to reading material for children.

The campaign of LIASA "**Every child a book**" is a first step to promoting reading and fostering the love of books. Members were encouraged to take up this challenge, not only for the month, but for the rest of their lives to ensure that children will always have this privilege.

10. BRANCHES

Formal training has been arranged for newly elected leaders in branches during this annual conference. This comes in the wake of the Branches, with the exception of Mpumalanga, having held their AGM's and elections, and raising various issues that need to be sorted out in the structures. Again, not all the Branches have consistently filled the requisite positions on their BEC's and election processes have not always been clearly understood and/or followed. The Branch Handbook developed by the Western Cape Branch has been distributed to all Branches and is

currently being adapted for use in all branches and will also go some way towards ironing out the various issues raised through the election processes.

LIASA has seen a growth in membership in most branches, except in the Free State and Mpumalanga Branches. While the drop in the Free State is very small, there is a significant drop in Mpumalanga and points to the dysfunctional state of this Branch. Discussions with the current Branch Chair highlighted a need for EXCO to step in and intervene. However, it must be stated that EXCO has attempted to host a Presidential visit in the Branch and has on numerous occasions sent communications to the Branch Chair, with very little success.

11. INTEREST GROUPS

Formal training has been arranged for newly elected leaders in branches and by implication Interest Groups during this annual conference.

All the Interest Groups arranged sessions during the 2010 Conference and various meetings, workshops and training sessions were held during the year. A specifically strong focus on training has been the trend for many Interest Groups this past year but this has also necessitated the need to look at subsidising some of the Interest Groups to continue this work.

Concerns have however been raised by the Chairs of both SSIG and RETIG about the way forward. The SSIG had a very good programme at the 2009 Conference but has concerns about the state of the Interest Group, both at Branch level as well as a National level. Similarly, RETIG has concerns about the Interest Group at a Branch level as there seems to be no functioning Branch Interest Group at present. This has been an ongoing problem for the Chair and it is hoped that there will be a resolution to this matter at this Conference.

The annual PACLiG calendar remains a useful tool for members and is also a valuable marketing tool for the Association.

12. COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The President, R More represented LIASA on the National Council for Library and Information Services (**NCLIS**) during the period of reporting.

LIASA membership to the South African Book Development Council (**SABDC**) had been renewed and LIASA is represented by the current President Ms N Haasbroek.

LIASA membership to the International Federation for Library Associations (**IFLA**) was paid up to end 2010. Several LIASA members serve on IFLA Standing Committees, including the current President who serves as Chair of the IFLA Africa Section.

Mr John Tsebe was elected as Chairperson of the Council for National Libraries of the World and Ms R More was elected to the Secretary of the Council.

LIASA had received a request from the Chairperson of MLAS SC, S Sippila to host MLAS SC Mid Term Meeting in February 2010. The meeting was preceded by the IFLA President's Presidential Meeting and a symposium. The event was well attended and the outcomes were integrated in the operations of Library Associations.

Other partnerships include:

- Finnish Library Association – Sponsorship towards the new Albie Sachs Freedom Award
- Goethe Institut – Mr W Tiedtke is attending the current conference as a guest of LIASA
- US Embassy – sponsorship for Ms R Warlow to speak at conference

The Publishers Association of South Africa (**PASA**) invited LIASA to participate in the London Book Fair and the invitation for South Africa as the Market Focus Country at their fair in Earls Court 19-21 April 2010. Unfortunately the book fair was seriously hampered by the closure of airports, the cancellation of flights due to the cloud of ash drifting from the erupting Eyjafjallajökull volcano in Iceland.

13. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

13.1 Centre for Information Career Development (CiCD)

LIASA's CiCD continues to provide training and skills development for Library and information practitioners in South Africa. For the period reporting on 605 library and information practitioners has participated in the training country wide.

The Web 2.0 Technologies workshop, 21st Century Communication on the Web, was rolled out to all branches. It proved to be very popular and requests for it are still being received.

In July the Collection Development Seminar was held over 2 days with 180 delegates from across the country attending. Topics covered included identifying gaps in the stock, selection tools, weeding, and selection policies amongst others.

During the 12th LIASA Annual Conference, CiCD hosted two workshops, one on PowerPoint: Adding the Bells and Whistles and another one for the newly elected Branch and Interest Group Committees. CiCD also funded two of the workshops PACLIG presented at the Conference: Puppet Tales and 23 Things.

13.2 Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPD)

During May 2010 the Interest Group for Bibliographic Standards had a very successful workshop on the cataloguing of e-publications. It was attended by 126 delegates.

During the 2010 Conference the ILL Interest Group held a workshop "Are your customers satisfied?" and it was attended by 40 delegates.

13.3 ETDP SETA

LIASA has secured a seat on the Education, Training and Development Practices (ETDP) SETA board as well as on 3 of the 5 chambers.

The representatives are:

Mr C Molepo	-	ETDP SETA Board
Dr R Raju	-	Higher Education Chamber
Ms N Kotsokonane	-	Further Education and Training Chamber
Ms A Goosen	-	Provisioning Chamber

14. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

14.1 Statutory Body

Following the 2006 motion carried by the AGM, a sub-committee was established to investigate statutory status of the Library and Information Services Sector. The LIASA Indaba held in January 2009 also identified the issue of statutory status as critical and had to be resolved by the profession for the growth of the professional body and the profession as a whole. The 2009 conference was also presented with recommended way forward and that included the development of a registry of all personnel within the sector and the conducting of a referendum on whether there is support for a statutory body. A presentation on the progress was presented also at the 2010 conference at a plenary session.

The process will include amongst others, the creation of a register of those that worked in the LIS environment which comprises of Public libraries, Academic libraries, Academics in LIS departments/programmes, Special libraries, School libraries, National library and the archives and Vendors (including booksellers). Members were informed that a company to do the register and then conduct the referendum was identified. Because of the cost implications it was decided that a pilot would be done in the Western Cape. Collaboration between the University of the Western Cape, the University of Cape Town and the University of Stellenbosch on the development of the registry was established. It is anticipated that LIASA won't receive a complete list of all those

within the LIS sector in the Western Cape and this was confirmed by the reports received. It was therefore been recommended that LIASA go ahead with the referendum with the people that would make the necessary details available to the research team.

The SMSs will be sent to those that have provided their cell phone numbers and for those that have not provided a cell phone number then the email addressed will be used to deliver the 'questionnaire'. The response from the emailed questionnaire will be treated as an SMS reply.

Results of the referendum will be analyzed in terms of the population that the research committee was working with. The research team will draw conclusions from those results and will make recommendation to the Representative Council of LIASA.

A proposal for funding was also submitted to the SALI Trust.

15. CONCLUSION

The most important factor in ensuring a successful future for LIASA is firstly the commitment and contribution of its members. Secondly, complemented by dedicated visionary leaders in all sections, national, regional and within interests groups, it can build on the growth experienced to date. The support and collaboration with strategic partners is the third key aspect to ensure a comprehensive effort and drive for a bright future of our Association.

The positive improvement in the financial standing of LIASA will also contribute to future of growth and stability, a future of financial viability, a future of professional growth through training and development for its members.

It is with pride and gratitude towards members for their support that this Executive Committee hands over to the new team with approximately R1 million rand in the accounts, a well established and successful training component, capacitated LIASA National Office, an improved membership database and increased membership numbers. We are also happy to report that all motions delegated to the Representative Council and Executive Committee during this term of office has been addressed and are in process or completed.

We are all responsible to ensure that LIASA is an Association of choice for all the LIS workers in the country. We should take up the challenge to ensure that LIASA continues to grow from strength to strength into a future of unity and cooperation, a future of building and repositioning it to serve in changing expectations and aspirations of all the members.

We wish the new leadership all the best and also pledge our support and commitment to them.



MS R MORE
PRESIDENT: LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION OF SA
2008-2010