

Dear Colleagues and Students

After a very successful semester, the purpose of this newsletter is to reflect on some LIS activities and developments of the last six months.

Yours faithfully

JM Kabamba
University Librarian

January 2015

Library Orientation 2015

The LIS first year Library orientation held on 21, 22 and 23 January 2015 was very successful. Unlike in January 2014 when 882 students attended the event, the 2015 orientation attracted 890 students at Bloemfontein campus library. The attendance was even more encouraging at the Welkom Campus where the number (723) of students that were recorded more than doubled than in the previous year (311).

As is often the case, the orientation was characterised by oral presentations made by library staff members to welcome students in batches. Each group was provided general guidance on the use of the library. Students were also shown a DVD about library facilities and services available to them.



Taking stock of library resources

For the first time in many years the Library embarked on stocktaking of printed library resources. This was not an easy task. The exercise followed several months of meticulous and tedious planning, as well as consultations with other universities. Having acquired a software especially tailored for this task, together with the help of a library staff member from Rhodes University, the project was started in earnest on 12 January 2015. Numerous challenges were encountered along the way however, commitment, team spirit and perseverance were key to ensure that the assignment was completed to its logical conclusion. A number of problems or issues that needed attention were identified.

Most of the problems encountered related to library materials found to be without barcodes or had barcodes which were not machine readable. Some barcodes could simply not match the library items. Some books were not on the system, others were in wrong locations while others had classification numbers that needed to be revised. It was pleasing to note that this project assisted the LIS to unearth many library materials that were previously reported missing.

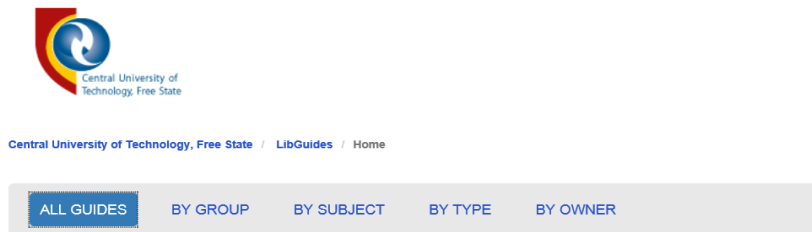
Much to the relief and joy of library staff, by the end of April 2015, the project was completed at both campuses and the Kimberley site library.



February 2015

CUT library acquires LibGuides

The CUT library can boast of another milestone following subscription to LibGuides. LibGuides can be described as content management tools used by libraries to "curate knowledge and share information by creating topics, subjects, courses" relevant to a specific library client's needs. LibGuides can also be used by the library to market library resources and services (<http://cut-za.libguides.com/>).



March 2015

South African Library Week

The theme for the 2015 Library Week was "connect @ your library". At the Central University of Technology, Free State, the Library Week was celebrated from 16 to 19 March 2015. The official launch of the Library Week was held in the Art Gallery on 16 March 2015 from 09:00 - 12:30. Two special guests were invited to address the CUT community on pertinent and contemporary issues to CUT. Melissa Badenhorst, from Thomson Reuters focused her address on a product called "InCites." This tool is a customized web-based research instrument that allows one to analyse institutional productivity and benchmark one's outputs against peers worldwide. On the other hand Marina van der Heever, from Wits University, focused her presentation on academic ratings, visibility and bibliometrics. A total of 42 CUT staff attended the event which was graced by Professor H de Jager; DVC: Academic and Research.

Other events included a demonstration on how to access library electronic resources using laptops, tablets and smart phones and the use of library databases.



April 2015

CUT embraces culture of digital teaching and learning

CUT Library and Information Services (LIS) took technology to another level when it launched e-Books (digital or electronic books) by means of open demonstrations on 9 and 10 April. The launch, which took place two years after the institutional depository launch, is a clear sign of how the university is integrating technology into the culture of digital teaching and learning. Internet has become a vital component. Most people and institutions are now resorting to e-books, because it saves time, space and money. The launch is a strategic decision to move with the times and be at par with the rest of the world.



CUT Celebrates the World Book and Copyright Day

The World Book and Copyright Day is commemorated throughout the world on 23 April to remember and recognize creators of literary and scholarly works. This occasion also presents an opportunity to reaffirm commitment to promotion and protection of intellectual property.

To join the international community in these celebrations, the CUT library organized a seminar dedicated to recognize and honour rated researchers at CUT for their contributions to improve scholarly output. The keynote address was presented by Dr C Masango of the University of Cape Town, whose presentation was crafted around the emergence of Copyright law and he covered contentious issues in copyright and plagiarism in the academia. Among the participants who shared personal inspirational success stories were Profs. J Grobbelaar, D. Ngidi, A Ngowi, L Lategan, I Yadroitsau, A Swart. This event was attended by 45 academics and post-graduate students.



Deputy University Librarian: Clients Services, Visits Ghana

Mr. Sello Borephe, the Deputy University Librarian: Clients Services, was in Ghana to attend the AfLIA (African Library and Information Associations and Institutes) Conference held from 30 May - 2 June 2015. The theme of the conference was: **African Libraries Rising – Leadership and Innovation for Development**. The conference was hosted by the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration. At the conference Mr. Borephe presented a paper on: **"CUT Information literacy: promoting digital records forensics in digital scholarly communication environment"**. This paper focused on challenges of academic integrity, digital plagiarism, and trustworthiness at institutional and pedagogical levels in a digital environment.



e-Book Workshops at Welkom Campus

On the 27th of May Mr. Tshidi Jobo and Ms Lizette Storm (Faculty Librarians from the Bloemfontein Campus), trained attendees on how to use Ebscohost Discovery Service and ScienceDirect to search for e-Books.

On the 28th of May Ms Dora Ackerman and Ms Sharon Minnie also visited the Welkom Campus to disseminate information related to the ordering processes and procedures. They also indicated that both the LIS order form and processes, as well as several other e-book vendor's platforms are available via the LIS Webpage ([Ordering books](#)). These training sessions were attended by several staff members, as well as students.

Handle added to Institutional Repositories (IR)

The Library is proud to have succeeded to effect subscription to a new feature to enhance access to the increasing number of materials/theses uploaded on the CUT (IR). The IR's Handle has been indexed and registered. This means that CUT's intellectual output uploaded on the IR will now be accessible to anyone using search engines such as Registry of Open Access, Directory of Open Access Repositories (OpenDoar), including the world renowned Google Scholar search engine. Meanwhile a CUT policy on IR has been drafted. It is hoped that the policy will soon be tabled for considerations by the relevant CUT management structures before the end of 2015.

Furthermore the CUT (IR) which, by and large, currently consists of CUT electronic Theses and Dissertations, has now being included in the NRF (National Research Foundation) and CHELSA's (Committee of Higher Education Librarians of South Africa) National ETD Portal of South African theses and dissertations at the following link: <http://www.netd.ac.za/>



Collection Statistics

Collection	Total
Central University of Technology	241

Celebrating Personal Achievement

The CUT library would like to share the glory and excitement experienced when Ms Jeannet Makasi Molopyane: Faculty Librarian, Health and Environmental Sciences attained a Masters degree in Information Science. Ms Molopyane acquired this qualification from the University of Pretoria under the supervision of Prof. I Fourie. The topic for her dissertation was: **A framework to promote workplace information literacy in academic settings: Central University of Technology, Free State as a case study.**



In her own words: *"There are special plans for us to fulfil unseen and unknown mandates through our work. With passion in there, it becomes quite exciting."*