

# First Carnegie Library Leadership Academy (CLLA)

The first of six two-week library leadership academies was hosted by the Centre for African Library Leadership (University of Pretoria Library Services), at the Leriba Lodge in Centurion, from 5-17 July 2009.

After a careful evaluation and assessment process, 20 library professionals from different backgrounds, provinces and institutions were selected to participate in the Academy.

The Academy programme



Back row: Shirlene Neerpath, Christelle Lubbe, Joy Hawkins, Winnie Mangotlo, Erenst Bampoe, Motsarome Mabena, Steve Mokhabukhi, Martha de Waal (CALL Programme Co-ordinator), Sulaiman Majal, Shireen Deoraj, Pranisha Parag, Najma Patel; Front: Erika Rood, Abigail Chuene, Modisa Khosie, Hloni Dlamini, Ujala Satgoor (CALL Director), Moipone Qhomane-Goliath, Liesl Stieger, Yegis Naidu, Alenor Duarte (Inset: Freeman Zulu)

has been devised with the intention of initiating a paradigm shift for leaders in the South African LIS sector. Top class speakers and course leaders were selected to form part of the programme in an effort

to align the leadership skills and capacity of current and future library leaders to the many challenges of the 21st century library environment.

Formal and informal learning opportunities allowed for

networking, the acknowledgement of cultural diversity, self awareness, the sharing and exchange of expertise and acquiring new technological skills. Individual assignments and group projects were assessed by a group of lecturers from the Universities of Pretoria, Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal.

As part of the always present element of fun, Christelle Lubbe from the City of Cape Town Central Library has been selected as the "Personality of the 2009 CLLA" by her equally innovative and enthusiastic co-participants.

The positive vibe and general feel of the Academy are perhaps best illustrated by the feedback from the first group of participants:

*It was an honour to be chosen for the Academy ... the layout of the programme was brilliant.*

*The Academy was extremely well organized.*

*I really appreciate being selected ... it was an unforgettable experience.*

*The Academy provided excellent ideas to implement at my workplace.*

*I am impressed and moved by what I have learned ... an inspirational experience.*

*This opportunity allowed me to develop myself professionally ... it left me transformed in my ideas.*

*I now know the difference between merely managing vs. true leadership.*

*I could never go back to my institution and be the same leader.*

*The Academy has changed my life ... it was hard work, but also a lot of fun.*

*I am proud to be one of the first 20 participants ... many seeds were planted to be taken forward.*

*The Academy provided me with a picture of the profession as a whole.*

The resounding success of this Carnegie Library Leadership Academy will certainly impact on the leadership development of future library leaders in South Africa. A call for participation in upcoming academies will be circulated towards the end of the year.

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