

Work has commenced in earnest in resolving some of the critical membership problems. I would urge members to exercise patience and recommend that you contact Francien Maritz, LNO Manager, for any queries relating to your membership.

At the EXCO meeting held on March 14 2009 it was decided to task Mindex with the contract of archiving and creating a whole new database that will host the 2008 and 2009 membership records.

LIASA National Office System Upgrade (Annemarie Foster, Mindex)

The LIASA National Office is in process to upgrade and simplify the membership database. The existing database will undergo a number of changes and the method of processing membership applications and renewals will be simplified and updated. The following steps will be taken:

- The current database will be divided into two databases. The one will be for current members and the second will be for non-renewals (A LIASA membership archive)
- The current database will be cleaned-up. This means the structure of the database will be revised and shortened.
- With the new database a number of forms will be created to comply with reports needed for the Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting. These forms will display up-to-date membership numbers for each province, including new memberships and renewals. It will also include a financial report to indicate the institutional and private memberships with short-falls where it applies.
- This improved system will eliminate problems with the back-log currently on the old system.

LIASA will also implement an electronic

membership form on the website. This will facilitate the registration of new members as well as membership renewals. Included in this form will be electronic methods of payment.

Share your LIASA story

Colleagues I invite you to share your experience of being a LIASA member. Let the members hear how LIASA has contributed to your professional and personal growth.

Renewals and new registrations

As you are aware, your membership fees contribute substantially to the sustainability of LIASA. Urge your colleagues to renew their lapsed membership or join as new members. Visit this link to see the applicable fees for 2009: http://www.liasa.org.za/join_liasa/memfees.php

Ujala Satgour



CENTRE FOR INFORMATION CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Centre for Information Career Development operates within LIASA's CEPD (Continuous Education and Professional Development) programme. CiCD is based at the LIASA National Office but does not limit its activities to that area. Training and career development take place nationally and logistical arrangements for the courses, workshops or seminars will be done by the branches and interest groups.

One of the goals of the project is to address the training and skills development needs of public and academic library personnel within existing Library and Information Sectors in South Africa. With

this in mind CiCD is continually searching for relevant opportunities to enhance professional development and workplace learning.

The CiCD project has been operational for a number of years already and many successful training programs have taken place. Amongst them are the Library Leadership and Management Workshops, which are repeated this year by popular demand. Susan Battison attended the course in Pretoria. She said: "The structure of the workshop was well balanced between looking at yourself and the management tasks that you perform. Leadership comes from within and knowing yourself can lead to self-improvement, thus leading to successful management of

others. I believe that this workshop should be undertaken by all library staff, not just 'managers'. We all manage ourselves and our clients everyday."

Workshops will also be presented at the annual conference in Bloemfontein.

CiCD further partnered with various organisations and committees in the sector, assisting with funding in continuous education opportunities.

We would like to invite you to develop your professional life and workplace skills by getting involved and sharing your knowledge with colleagues. Attend the workshops, conferences and seminars and let's together build a better service in the LIS sector.

Annemarie Goosen

CARNEGIE CENTRE FOR AFRICAN LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

To be established at the University of Pretoria

In 2008 the University of Pretoria Library Services (UP LS) was awarded a three-year grant of R7,5 million by the Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY) to address the leadership development needs of current and future middle and senior managers in academic, public/community and national library services in South Africa. The grant will enable the UP LS to establish a self-sustaining library leadership centre, to facilitate skills based leadership training to selected individuals and to build a team of library leadership trainers who would be able to continue training after the termination of the grant.

Ms Martha de Waal has been appointed as Project Co-ordinator of the Centre for African Library Leadership (CALL) to be established at the Merensky Library. This Centre will be modeled on the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, but will function independently to address library leadership training within the South



African context.

In accordance with the grant requirements, an independent CALL Advisory Committee (AC) has been appointed to provide strategic direction, to support the implementation of the project, to set overall goals and to approve programme strategies. The AC is representative of the various library and information services (LIS) sectors, i.e. CHELSA (Ms Vivian Agyei), the metropolitan public and community libraries (Ms Karlien de Klerk), the provincial library services (Ms Koekie Meyer), LIASA (Ms Rachel More), the

Department of Arts and Culture (Mr Puleng Kekana), the IFLA/Africa Section (Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata), and includes the UP LS Director, Mr Robert Moropona and the CALL Director, Ms Ujala Satgour. Representatives from the three collaborating library schools at the Universities of Cape Town (Prof Peter Underwood), KwaZulu-Natal (Prof Christine Stilwell) and Pretoria (Prof Theo Bothma) will hold consultative status within the Committee and will be responsible for the curriculum design.

The first of six two-week library leadership academies will be held at the University of Pretoria in July 2009. A call for participation will be followed by a selection process to determine the group of library leaders who will be the first to benefit from the Carnegie grant and who will play a role in taking library leadership to new heights in South Africa.

Martha de Waal

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